

EIGHTY-FIRST ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY 1956



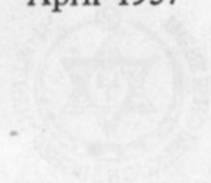
Published by
THE RECORDING SECRETARY,
THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY, ADYAR,
MADRAS 20, INDIA

APRIL 1957

Price Rs. 8

THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY
GENERAL REPORT OF THE
EIGHTY-FIRST ANNUAL
1956

April 1957



(Wholly set up and printed by T. G. Suryanarayanan, at the Vasanta Press,
The Theosophical Society, Adyar, Madras 20, India.)

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PRESIDENTIAL REPORT

81ST INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

Adyar, December 26, 1956

By N. SRI RAM, *President*

ADDRESS OF WELCOME¹

SISTERS AND BROTHERS,

I have great pleasure in extending to each and all of you who have come to this 81st International Convention of the Theosophical Society a very cordial welcome. I sincerely hope you will have an exceedingly happy time at Adyar, a happiness which is pervaded by a feeling of peace.

I regret that because of a physical condition, due to my recent illness and the need that still continues strictly to follow the doctor's orders, I will not be able to greet you in person or to take part in the activities of the week. Nevertheless, I shall be present with you in spirit, and say so in no conventional sense. Being at the Headquarters all the time, I shall be really in the midst of all of you and will be informed to the necessary extent as to what takes place. Miss Emma Hunt, the Recording Secretary, Mr. Edwin Lord, the Treasurer, Sri Rohit Mehta, the General Secretary of the Indian Section, and the other Officers of the Society will meet you in my stead, and do all that is needed to

make the Convention a success in the real sense. I have no doubt in my mind that it will go beautifully and well, like so many of its predecessors.

It is not possible for me to read to you at this Convention an address surveying the work of the Society during the year. What I have to say on the subject will appear in due course in the Annual Report, along with the Reports received from the various Sections, and also in *The Theosophist*. I shall refer therein to any special events of the year that may seem to me to call for notice and comment, as for instance the Congress of the European Sections, held at Baden near Vienna, Austria, in September last, the lecture tours of Mr. Geoffrey Hodson in the United States, Mr. Rohit Mehta in the United Kingdom and Eire, Mr. M. Subramaniam in Indonesia, Malaya and Viet-Nam, myself and Señor Alfredo Puig in South and Central America, and the way the work is going forward in the various Sections.

In the meanwhile I do not want to let this occasion pass without expressing my thanks to all my co-workers at Adyar who have carried on the work here so capably and steadily throughout the year that they

¹ Read by the Recording Secretary.

have left me free to do what I specially wished to do, and also not to do what I should otherwise do but was incapable of doing, whether during the recent tour or during my illness. It would not be right for me here to mention the names of only some, omitting others, but I will mention them all in the Report when I speak of the Adyar activities.

I have asked Miss Hunt, the Recording Secretary, to deputize for me at this Convention and convey to you all my heart-felt greetings.

Our Conventions, International and National, and all Theosophical gatherings everywhere are a very real part of our world-wide work. They are not merely for business so-called, for elections, accounts and so forth. Also, they are not for pushing forward the ideas of particular people, whoever they may be. Lectures, discussions, social gatherings, all these are of value, provided they serve the deeper purpose of our coming to know each other better, of helping us to realize what is worth realizing concerning our own life and thinking, to make our lives beautifully simple and helpful in every way to all around, and to the world at large.

The success of our Convention depends not so much on particular things done or left undone, although these have their proper significance, as on the spirit manifested by each one present at them, which should be a spirit of unalloyed brotherhood, selflessness in thought and word, and a longing to share with all others what in our hearts we may conceive or feel to be the highest blessing in our life.

PRESIDENTIAL REPORT

As I was reading the Annual Reports for the year 1955-56 from the General Secretaries, the Secretaries of the Federations, and the Presidential Agents, I was

struck by the following from Israel, which I reproduce here, because it reflects so beautifully the spirit which should characterize the attitude of Theosophists everywhere. Says Mr. Hans Zeuger, the Presidential Agent:

After having learnt the very gratifying news indeed, that "the work of the Theosophical Society is once again active in Egypt," we availed ourselves of the opportunity offered on the occasion of our Annual Meeting in Tel-Aviv, on the 2nd November 1956, of sending in common meditation—via Adyar—our profound thoughts of good-will, peace and friendship to our brethren in Cairo, hoping that Egypt and Israel may soon be drawn together in a spirit of forgiveness, unity and co-operation, now that the light of Theosophy is shining there again in full measure.

What does it matter to a true Theosophist whether he is an Israelite or an Egyptian, an Indian or a Pakistani? He should be able to view all matters from a standpoint which rises above these distinctions, a standpoint from which what is good and true on every side is brought into a common focus. It may be thought by some: This is too difficult, too much to ask of an ordinary human being, who must have his allowance of such satisfactions and successes, whether as an individual or as a member of a national group, as will give him a sense of his own individuality, his distinctiveness. In other words, to put it bluntly, his separateness, his egoism.

But from the standpoint of Reality, we are most individual—and this is the true individuality—when we least think of ourselves. It is an individuality, a natural expression, in which one is just distinctive without being conscious of distinction, as the oak or date-palm is distinctive, without wanting to be distinguished. If Theosophists are not going to be different from the masses of people in every country, who like to feel that they are superior to all others, whether because of race, caste, religion, their particular philosophy, wealth, fashion, or what not, then we cannot hope for a condition radically

better than the present, for a new age, a new cycle. A new cycle will not come into being, in any real sense, except through the minds of individuals. There may be a co-ordination in the complicated process we call evolution between its mental, physical and physiological aspects, but any real change for us in the human stage has to come through a change of heart for which we ourselves are primarily responsible.

It is that change which is aimed at in the First Object of the Theosophical Society. If we are really Brothers in spirit, which is more than being brothers by blood or by any external tie, your welfare must be precious to me and vice versa. The sole criterion for any decision, for any disposition of affairs, is the happiness of the people concerned. To realize this is to rise to a height above the pairs of opposites, whether in race, sex, caste, creed, color, or any political or national denomination. Especially at present when there are such acute conflicts in the field of human living, the best service that a Theosophist can render is that indicated by the First Object of the Society. This is done not by merely using the word Brotherhood but by illustrating in our lives, which means first in our thinking, the profound importance and meaning of a brotherly relationship with others, which is the only true relationship.

The Report on the work of the English Section from Mrs. Alice L. Berry, who has succeeded Mr. C. R. Groves as General Secretary, speaks of problems facing our Society as a result of several other bodies teaching Theosophy, each along its own lines, and particularly the appeal of various psychological groups with such doctrines as "dianetics," "scientology," and so on. It seems to me that such developments are inevitable because of the wide diffusion of Theosophical ideas—the very ideas which were scoffed at in

H.P.B.'s time as so much unscientific nonsense—the increasing interest in psychological problems due to the intensification of a mental age struggling to overpass its barriers, and the tendency of people everywhere to create an organization for every pet idea which they regard as especially their own. In this world market, with so many booths and stalls, each peddling its wares, what is our own particular mission? I use the word "mission"; but it is much more a commission or duty laid upon us. What is our dharma?

It is really for each member who is thoughtful to consider it carefully for himself. But it seems to me that the motto of our Society in the Samskrit words indicates the answer. The words may be translated thus: There is no dharma superior to Truth. Our dharma, our proper function, is to express this Truth, which is the truth of all things, of life and Nature, of what is and what takes place. Mr. Gosta Lindström, the new General Secretary for Sweden, says in his Report, that because Theosophy has so many different aspects they have thought it useful in the Swedish Section to prepare a booklet for enquirers expounding Theosophy from different points of view. This is an excellent idea, which brings out the fact that Truth, though one in its essence because of its being the very nature of the one all-pervading Spirit, is manifold in its expressions.

The Second Object of the Society calls for all-round study in order that we may find the common ground for these expressions. The human consciousness being like a funnel opening inward or outward according to the way in which we look at it, there are different ways in which it unfolds at different points, and different expressions of Truth. All of them, which make the totality of Truth, come under the term Theosophy.

Our dharma is to express the Truth, which is fundamentally the truth of the Unity, in such ways as we can and as will help those with whom our lot is cast, to see a little more clearly into the true significance of things. This depends on life, on its purity and its flow, rather than on any self-centred attempt to advance and achieve something for oneself. Our aim in the Society is to form a nucleus of Universal Brotherhood. A cell or a nucleus is not a mere structure, but a life. It is a constitution for the flow of life, of the forces inherent in it, and life flows most beautifully, most efficiently, when it is perfectly related to all other lives. As I see it, Brotherhood means just this relationship which subjectively is a certain understanding, a communion with all that lives, and more objectively, co-operation with others, giving rise to an increasing harmony.

We do not need to compete with any other body. Any idea of competition will deflect us from our path, from that Truth which we should seek to express, unmixed with any element that seeks to attract by meretricious aids, by any cloak of authority, or by appeal to those weaknesses in people which are the main obstruction in them to the perception of the true as distinguished from the false. What is most needed in our Society is not more of such knowledge as others can give, nor any revelations to which there is no end, not anything which caters to sensation and curiosity, but something beyond all this, which is Life and Truth, realizable within ourselves. Psychology, as any other study, is good in itself, if it results in a better knowledge of oneself, a better guidance for life, but not any practice which strengthens the illusory psyche, the entity which feeds on pleasant reveries and is eager all the time to satisfy its ambitions.

If, as says H. P. B. in *The Key to Theosophy*, Theosophy is a doctrine of pure

altruism, the highest aim for any of us, as well as the only way to gain true understanding, is selflessness in thought and action. In our studies, as in life, there are many things that present themselves, and we need that understanding, that pure discrimination, which will enable us to evaluate each thing in its proper place.

A number of Reports refer to the fact that there is a lack of good lecturers, especially in the smaller Sections. No doubt there is; to some extent this can be remedied by one Section helping another, but it is not easy to produce good lecturers because to speak on Theosophy is not the same as speaking on any other subject. It is not possible to train anyone as a lecturer on Theosophy unless he knows what Theosophy is, not superficially by merely reading up the books, but by knowing the deep significance of what he can learn from books and what he can learn from life. What we may find in any book is but a stepping-stone to a discovery that we have to make for ourselves. It is a discovery of Law, Purpose, Organization and Process on the one hand, commingled on the other with Life, Love, and every beautiful response that can be evoked when we are sensitive enough to the contacts and the events that take place.

I have no doubt that our Society is sufficiently well set in the right direction, and sufficiently strong in the devotion and earnestness of many of its members, to go forward from where we are, according to the hopes and the plan of its Founders, a plan which must be more of a vision of possibilities than any rigid text incapable of addition or modification in a world that has been changing at a breathless and revolutionary pace.

An important event of the year was the holding of the European Federation Congress from September 8 to September 15 at Baden near Vienna. There were some

327 delegates present, coming from 21 countries. I was there on my way back to Adyar from South and Central America and was happy to preside over the gathering. We were all glad to meet in Baden because of the fact that Austria had only recently gained complete freedom from the occupying Powers who had been in control since the close of the last World War, and the Austrian Section needed just the help that could be given by the Congress. The central theme of the Congress was the Rise of a New Cycle. There were a number of speakers, including myself, each dealing with it in his or her own way. Besides these lectures and other meetings, such as one to consider the work of the Theosophical Research Groups in England and Holland, and another to explain the work of the Theosophical Order of Service in Europe, there were a number of Discussion Groups into which the delegates divided themselves. The meetings of these Groups, of which four were conducted in German, two in English and two in French, were voted an unqualified success by all who took part in them. Each delegate, as a member of one or other of them, was thus an active participant in the proceedings of the Congress, making his own contribution to it, instead of being only a passive listener to speeches, however excellent. The success of the Congress was due largely to the efforts of our Austrian workers, headed by Mr. and Mrs. Fritz Schleifer, and also Mr. van Dissel, the European Federation Secretary, and his co-workers in the European Federation Council and Committee.

Mr. James Perkins, National President of the Theosophical Society in America, speaks of 1956 as an "extraordinary year" in its annals, because of the nationwide interest in Reincarnation roused by the publication of the book *Bridey Murphy* purporting to give details of a past

incarnation of a person now living in the United States. This has resulted in many enquiries both at the National Headquarters at Wheaton and at other centres of Theosophical activity throughout the country. Naturally this has called for an increased effort on the part of the departments at Headquarters as well as the lecturers and Lodge workers to meet the demand for information not only on Reincarnation but also on other subjects connected with it. Mr. Perkins himself delivered with much success a series of lectures on Reincarnation in Chicago and later in other cities. In the United States the activities are carried on on a highly organized basis. Besides regular lecturing in the different parts of the country by lecturers sent out from Headquarters, special attention is given to areas where either there are no Lodges or the Lodges are weak and struggling to maintain themselves. This "Spotlight" activity, as it is called, is a concentration for the time being of the strength of the Section on a selected area. I might here mention that Mr. Felix Layton, who was at Adyar for a number of years, and Mrs. Layton are at present engaged in this particular work. The Section is also developing on a big scale a system of radio broadcasts, by which Theosophy can be carried to many homes which would not otherwise be reached. Material has been supplied to Lodges in 29 cities for over 657 broadcasts, and an increasing number of Lodges are extending their broadcasts, we are told, over the entire year. Obviously, this method of propaganda, while it cannot entirely take the place of lectures, informal talks and discussions, in which there is direct personal contact between listener and speaker, is bound to assume increasing proportions not only in the United States but also in every other Section. Gradually we might develop a system of mutual help among the various

Sections in the matter of radio broadcasts as well as tape-recordings of speeches that can be used for Lodge programmes.

Because of the European Federation Congress, there were no regional summer schools this year in the German and French regions, says Mr. van Dissel, but there were other summer schools, among them a British and Irish summer school at Swanwick and the summer school at Gammel Praestegaard in Denmark. Such gatherings under one name or another—study camp, summer school, week-end retreat and so on—are becoming increasingly a feature of Theosophical work all over the world.

Among the various Sections India has the largest membership. It has now over 6,800 members. The year 1956 has been notable as being the 2,500th year after the passing of the Lord Buddha, and there have been celebrations all over the country in which our Lodges and members have participated with very special interest.

India is a country where many Lodges have buildings of their own in which they can meet and where they can maintain a Theosophical Library for use by members and the public. Not infrequently, I might say in passing, the care of these buildings and the use to which they are put create problems for the Section. Nevertheless, I suppose one must concede that it is a good thing to have grounds and building which can be exclusively used for Theosophical purposes and where it is possible to build up a favorable atmosphere as well as other more tangible facilities for Theosophical work. For long, Delhi, the capital of India, had lacked such a centre but during the last year, thanks to the efforts of our members there, it has been possible to build a Lodge hall with adjoining rooms on a small site in one of the extensions of the city, and it is now ready for use. The

foundation for it was laid by the President of the Republic, Sri Rajendra Prasad, in April 1956, at a meeting in which he made a highly appreciative reference to the work of Theosophists in India.

It is a far cry from Delhi to Sao Paulo in Brazil, where thanks to the business capacity of the General Secretary, Señor Armando Sales, and his devoted efforts, it has been possible for the Section to establish itself in premises of its own, consisting of two adjoining floors in a big building in the heart of the city. I had the pleasure of speaking in this place a number of times while I was there in May.

It is not possible for me to refer here to each and every country where the Society is active; so I mention only some, but in all of them, except where the activities are under suspense, that is to say in the totalitarian countries, the work goes on, thanks to those faithful members who carry on day by day, spreading the message as they can, and the Lodges which keep the Theosophical Society alive and alight, diffusing its radiance.

In Germany they have had "a successful year". In Indonesia the membership has increased appreciably. From the Netherlands comes the report that "public interest in Theosophy is growing"—which does not mean that the number of members is increasing correspondingly. There are many people who are attracted by Theosophical ideas and even influenced by them, but for one reason or another do not think of joining the Society. I had unusually large audiences in South and Central America during the months I was there and those present seemed to be quite interested in what I had to say. Yet I do not expect more than a very few of them even to consider becoming members, because of the strongly Catholic atmosphere in those countries. If our main object is to help those whom we can

reach by what we say and do, we may be content if this object is achieved to a greater or lesser extent. Those who want to join the ranks of the helpers, and share the burden of the work, will do so when the spirit moves them. The Society has grown so widely throughout the world that if there is some slackness in one part of it there is activity in others. There was "great activity" in Iceland, says Mr. Gretar Fells, who has just retired from the post of General Secretary after 21 years in that office. From Venezuela, the youngest of the Sections, the General Secretary, Señor Pablo Bonilla, sends the cheering report that they have had "many new members". Similarly, Mr. Ricardo Michell, the new General Secretary for Chile, another small Section, speaks of public attendance in larger numbers at Theosophical lectures.

A considerable amount of good work is done in a number of Sections by the distribution of Theosophical leaflets and even booklets. I referred to this last year but wish to mention here that in Viet-Nam the Section, which has only 393 members, is distributing free of cost no less than 5,000 copies of *At the Feet of the Master* translated into Vietnamese and 2,000 copies of a booklet entitled *Practical Theosophy*.

An interesting event, which seems to hold much promise for the future, is the formation of a West African Federation for which the Charter was issued on 1st January 1956. The Federation includes four Lodges and five Centres, all of them enthusiastic and active. It has already held a summer school at Nkawkaw, which is described by the Secretary of the Federation as successful "beyond all expectation". Evidently because of the paucity of experienced members in these Lodges and Centres, any difficult points arising from their studies are referred to the Organizing Secretary, so that he has not

only to organize but also to instruct. Another Federation was formed, during the year, for Malaya and Singapore, with Dr. C. H. Yeang as the Organizing Secretary. It received its Charter on 1st October 1956.

After a long period of Theosophical inactivity once again a Lodge has been formed at Cairo in Egypt with the name Hikmet El Kadima, with Mr. Zaki Awad as President. It is to be hoped that this fresh beginning will prove successful, and the Lodge will grow into a steady movement, shedding on all those who come under its auspices the calming and harmonizing influence of the Wisdom, particularly needed amidst the agitations of that region.

While I was in Peru I found that the Section was in a somewhat disorganized condition due to various causes, and there seemed to be no way of re-establishing it on a proper basis. Therefore, with the consent of all the members whom I could meet, I decided to suspend the Section for a time, withdrawing its Charter. Though this was regrettable it seemed to be the only course to take, but I am sure there will be a Peruvian Section ere long, because there are so many earnest Theosophists who highly value their membership of the Society. In the meanwhile the existing Lodges—there were only three of them in good standing at the time—have been allowed to affiliate themselves directly to Adyar.

The Theosophical Order of Service is active in all the countries mentioned by me last year. There is much humanitarian and public work which either Theosophical Lodges or individual members carry on apart from the Order as such.

I was for five months away from Adyar during the year, mainly on a tour of the South and Central American Sections. I was accompanied on this tour by Señor Alfredo Puig, Jr., of Havana, Cuba, who

not only translated me into Spanish with a readiness and accuracy which elicited the admiration of the audiences, particularly those who knew English, but also helped me personally in every way possible, including the obtaining of visas and the ordering of meals at hotels and restaurants. We visited Puerto Rico, Venezuela, Brazil, Uruguay, Argentina, Chile, Bolivia, Peru, Colombia, Panama, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala and Mexico. After Mexico I went on to "Olcott," the Headquarters of the American Section, for a few days before proceeding to London, Paris and Baden near Vienna. On the way to Puerto Rico from India I stopped for two days at Athens, and also at Paris where they had arranged to hold the French Section Convention just at that time in order that I might be present and meet the delegates.

Mr. Geoffrey Hodson has made another extensive tour in the United States and Canada, arriving at San Francisco in time to take part in the National Conference of the American Section which was held there during the last week of November 1955. Such a Conference has been held during the last two years, somewhat on the lines of the Annual Convention, especially for the benefit of members who are not able to attend the Convention at "Olcott," and with a view to strengthening the work in different areas far away from "Olcott". Mr. Hodson's tour culminated in his participation in the Annual Convention and Summer School at "Olcott" in July 1956, after which he spent some time at "Krotona," Ojai, California, giving talks, before returning to New Zealand.

During the months of April to August Mr. Rohit Mehta, on an invitation from the English Section, made a tour of a number of Lodges in the United Kingdom and Eire, and was the chief speaker at the English Convention held at Whitsuntide

in London, and also at the Scottish Convention held in Glasgow. During his absence from India, Srimati Shridevi Mehta acted as the General Secretary for India.

Mr. M. Subramaniam made a tour from the latter part of April till early in September in Indonesia, Malaya and Viet-Nam, visiting all important Lodges, and also Rangoon, Burma, on the way back to India.

I might here also mention Miss Helen Zahara who, after completing her 1955 tour of South and Central America, was requested by the Australian Section to tour and strengthen the work in that country. En route to Australia she stopped briefly in England and also went to Northern Ireland. In Australia she has been travelling from Lodge to Lodge, and at the end of this tour she will be present at the Diamond Jubilee of the New Zealand Section and then tour that country for three months.

We have reason to be grateful to all these workers and others whom I am not able to mention here, for the help and inspiration they have carried to the areas visited by them. I have had highly appreciative letters from the General Secretaries and very many members regarding their work.

At Adyar there have not been many changes in the staff, except that Mr. Alain Danielou has given up the post of Director of the Adyar Library in order to concentrate on some literary work, and I appointed Miss Ann Kerr temporarily as Director of the Library. I want here to say how much I appreciate the improvements Mr. Danielou has made as Director in the general organization of the work, the preservation and repair of manuscripts, and the Library Bulletin. I also relieved Mrs. Radha S. Burnier, at her request, of the office of Assistant Director, but she has continued to help the Library

informally in many ways, particularly in the editing of the Bulletin. Mrs. Mary G. Patterson was relieved by me of her post as Librarian of the Adyar Library in order that she might devote her time to the work of the School of the Wisdom. Another change is that Mr. D. V. Syamala Rau has been working during the greater part of this year as an assistant in the Treasurer's Office, instead of as Superintendent of the Vasanta Press. As usual, I give here the list of Departments, with the names of the heads and assistants for each of them:

Archives, Miss Katherine Beechey; *Adyar Library*, Miss Ann Kerr; *Bhojanasala*, Mr. S. Krishnamurti; *Dispensary*, Dr. G. Srinivasa Murti, Dr. E. Sundaresan; *Engineering Department*, Mr. M. D. Subramaniam; *Gardens*, Mr. N. Y. Sastry, Mr. V. Manickam; *Custody of Movable Properties*, Mr. Narainji K. Kevat; *Laundry*, Mr. M. V. Gopalakrishna Iyer; *Leadbeater Chambers*, Miss Florence Pulsford; *Recording Secretary's Office*, Miss Emma Hunt; *Sanitation and Hygiene*, Madame P. Cazin; *Theosophical Publishing House*, Mr. K. S. Krishnamurti, Mr. K. Ramanathan; *The Theosophist*, Mrs. D. R. Dinshaw, Mr. Seymour Ballard; *Treasurer's Office*, Mr. Edwin N. Lord, Mr. K. S. Rajagopalan; *Vasanta Press*, Mr. K. S. Krishnamurti, Mr. K. Ramanathan, Mr. T. G. Suryanarayanan; *Watch and Ward*, Mr. K. S. Krishnamurti.

To all departmental heads and assistants, and to Miss Emma Hunt, the Recording Secretary, and Mr. Edwin N. Lord, the Treasurer, both of whom have carried on the work most capably, I want to express my deep gratitude.

The School of the Wisdom commenced its session this year on October 2, with Miss Emma Hunt as Director of Studies, with the help of Mrs. Mary G. Patterson who also acted as the Secretary of the

School. There were 18 students, coming from eight different countries, namely, U.S.A., Viet-Nam, Malaya, Northern Ireland, India, Australia, Pakistan and England. I may say that all of them have greatly enjoyed the work of the School and the opportunity of being at Adyar and coming to know something of the activities here.

Among those who passed away during this year I might mention here Mr. Peter Freeman, who was for 22 years the General Secretary for Wales; Dr. James Cousins, who came to India in 1916 in order to assist Dr. Besant in her work and remained here till he passed away; Mr. Henry van de Poll, who was for many years a worker at Adyar and later at the Indian Section Headquarters at Varanasi; and Mr. C. S. Trilokekar, who worked for many years with Dr. Arundale in the Central Hindu College and School at Varanasi and later as Principal of the Theosophical College and School at Madanapalle. Both Dr. Cousins and Mr. Trilokekar had been latterly helping the Besant Theosophical School and Kalakshetra at Adyar. We greet these brothers and other members who have passed on with affection and gratitude.

I referred to the work of the Young Theosophists last year. Concerning the Young Theosophists in Australia, Mr. J. L. Davidge, the General Secretary, in his 1956 Report, writes that they are vigorous in the larger Lodges and show vision and originality in their presentations. This is an excellent testimony for the young people to have from their elders. I am glad that in Australia, as well as in some other Sections to my knowledge, there is a relation of cordial co-operation and mutual helpfulness between the young and the elder Theosophists. It is often said that we want more youth in our Society. We certainly need the freshness of youth and its enthusiasm, along with

the wisdom and capacities of age. When Dr. Besant was eighty years old, Dr. Arundale described her as eighty years young. A Theosophist among other qualifications should be able to remain young at heart, even when he is physically old, and if he is physically young, should be able to show something of the deep purpose and earnestness of his soul-nature.

I am grateful to all who have contributed to the Adyar Day Fund, without which we would not be able to carry on

the work at Headquarters as we do. I want to make particular acknowledgment to the American Section for its most generous contribution. I also thank those who have contributed to the A. B. C., the Faithful Service, and other Funds.

Let us all resolve during the coming year to give of our best to the Society and to all whom we can reach through our Theosophical work, not to speak of those with whom we come into contact in our everyday lives.

N. SRI RAM

THE TREASURER'S REPORT

The Theosophical Society's Income and Expense account for the fiscal year ended 30th September, 1956 closed with a deficit of Rs. 9,922/- as summarized hereunder.

		<i>Budget</i> Rs.	<i>Actuals</i> Rs.
Expense (including Departments)	..	4,73,760	5,30,661
Income	..	4,20,850	4,72,095
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Deficit ..	..	52,910	58,566
Less donations received (after allocation to funds and accounts)	..		48,644
			<hr/>
Net deficit	..		9,922
			<hr/>

The Adyar Day Collections inclusive of a sum of Rs. 26,582-4-9 contributed by members in U.S.A., and the balance carried forward from the previous year amounted to Rs. 33,767-3-6. Other general donations received during the year amounted to Rs. 22,143-12-0. The President allocated the amount as given below:

Olcott Harijan Free Schools	..	..	1,000	0	0
Adyar Library	..	..	2,000	0	0
Besant Theosophical School	..	..	1,000	0	0
Welfare Fund	..	..	2,000	0	0
President's Discretionary Fund	..	..	1,000	0	0
Sum made available for the T.S.	..	..	48,643	12	0
					<hr/>
			55,643	12	0
Retained for further allocation	..	..	267	3	6
					<hr/>
			55,910	15	6
					<hr/>

Adyar Besant Commemorative Fund.—At the beginning of the year the amount at credit of the Fund was Rs. 8,82,311-15-1. Donations received during the year amounted to Rs. 93,134-3-1. The total amount at credit of the Fund as on 30-9-'56 was Rs. 9,75,446-2-2. The target

level set for the Fund is Rs. 20,00,000. We have nearly reached half of the target and the fund is still open for continuous contributions from members all over the world.

The Faithful Service Fund.—At the commencement of the year the balance at

credit of the Fund was Rs. 22,524-13-4. During the year we have disbursed a sum of Rs. 8,592-12-0. Mention must be made of a gift of Rs. 47,970/- from an anonymous donor. The balance at close of the year to the credit of the Fund was Rs. 68,255-0-6.

Repairs and Renewals.—Essential major repairs and improvements to buildings on the compound which had been postponed were taken up during the year and the total amount expended for this purpose was Rs. 48,313/-. The amount of Rs. 10,263-2-3 standing in the War-deferred Maintenance Reserve was applied against this expenditure, resulting in the net amount of Rs. 38,050/- being charged to this year's operations.

Garden Department.—Under the Honorary supervision and service of Mr. N. Yagneswara Sastri, a qualified Botanist, excellent results have been shown in the revenue producing departments of the Garden activity. It has been possible this year to offset a large portion of the expenses of the Ornamental Gardens with the net income from the productive activities. The net deficit of the entire garden operation for the year is only Rs. 2,666/-. The increased revenues from cocoanuts and the paddy crop have been very gratifying.

Casuarina Plantations.—This activity constitutes one of the important functions of the Garden Department. The net income is shown separately on the statement under the heading of Income.

In 1950, 1951, 1952 and 1953 certain areas, averaging about 8 acres each, were planted with casuarina seedlings.

No new plantings were made during 1954 and 1955. However in 1956, an additional area of approximately four acres was planted with slightly less than 5000 seedlings.

During the year some of the older plantations (prior to 1950) were partially harvested, and produced a net income of Rs. 3,784/-.

The total investment in new plantations (since 1950) now stands at Rs. 55,235/-.

Watch and Ward and Sanitation Departments.—These Departments have continued to operate within budget estimates.

Leadbeater Chambers.—The deficit of Rs. 1,956/- is within the budgeted figure.

Laundry.—The net cost of operating this department has been held well below the level of the anticipated deficit.

Bhojanasala.—This department shows a deficit of Rs. 3,298/- as compared to the previous year's loss of Rs. 2,414/-. Although there has been an increased income, the rise in prices of food-stuffs, the improvement in quality of service, and most important, the usual necessity to maintain the skeleton staff during slack months have contributed to the increased deficit. Steps will be considered to raise the rates consistent with the increased expenses.

Engineering Department.—On account of extensive repairs and improvements to various buildings on the Estate, the department has been able to show a surplus of Rs. 2,126/- this year.

Vasanta Press.—The Press shows an operating loss of Rs. 11,070/-. Our own printing requirements and suitable printing work obtainable from outside customers were less than the previous year, resulting in a drop in sales volume of about Rs. 10,000/-.

In addition to the drop in sales volume, the cost of operating the Press has risen due to the necessary wage increases, the adoption of the Government-sponsored Employees' State Insurance and Provident

Fund schemes, and higher maintenance and depreciation expenses.

The Press operation is receiving active attention and steps will be taken to eliminate or reduce the loss.

Budget for 1956-'57.—The budget for the new year shows a deficit of Rs. 64,370/- which it is hoped will be covered by donations from generous members. Due to the increased cost of living, including

particularly food prices, the Executive Committee felt it necessary to increase the salaries and wages of the workers on our Estate by 10%, effective from the first of October, 1956. This increase will amount to a total of nearly Rs. 18,000/- annually, which is reflected in the indicated deficit for the coming year.

EDWIN N. LORD,

Hony. Treasurer.

THE T. S. INCOME AND EXPENSE ACCOUNT

Budget	EXPENSE								
	Rs.					Rs. A. P.	Rs.	A.	P.
32,000	To Establishment—Salaries and Wages	...	...	...	...	...	31,568	7	9
30,000	„ Repairs and Renewals	...	...	...	...	48,313 12 0			
	Less appropriation from War-deferred Maintenance Reserve					10,263 2 3			
							38,050	9	9
4,000	„ Light and Water	...	...	...	...	...	3,488	10	0
7,000	„ Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	7,133	8	8
3,000	„ Postages, Telegrams and Telephones	...	...	...	...	...	2,555	5	3
3,500	„ Printing and Stationery	...	...	...	...	...	3,844	1	9
14,500	„ Taxes	...	...	...	...	...	13,868	1	3
800	„ Publications to General Secretaries	...	...	...	...	...	641	13	0
100	„ Museum and Archives	...	...	...	...	...	81	10	3
3,000	„ Convention, 1955	...	...	...	...	...	4,715	6	6
	„ Departmental Results:								
		Expense		Income		Net			
		Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.		Rs. A. P.			
44,290	Garden	36,369 6 6		33,703 10 0		— 2,665 12 6			
13,800	Watch and Ward	14,038 5 6		2,350 8 0		—11,687 13 6			
4,900	Sanitation	5,080 10 9		1,318 12 0		— 3,761 14 9			
3,500	Dispensary	5,275 14 6		1,263 10 6		— 4,012 4 0			
2,000	Leadbeater Chambers	20,605 11 9		18,650 1 3		— 1,955 10 6			
6,900	Laundry	7,520 1 0		5,879 2 0		— 1,640 15 0			
900	Bhojanasala	14,653 13 0		11,355 11 6		— 3,298 1 6			
	Engineering Department	1,45,719 12 11		1,47,845 9 6		+ 2,125 12 7			
	Vasanta Press	1,40,385 1 7		1,29,314 9 4		—11,070 8 3			
		3,89,648 13 6		3,51,681 10 1		—37,967 3 5	37,967	3	5
							1,43,914	13	7
	„ Appropriations:								
5,000	To Adyar Library	...	...	...	...	5,000 0 0			
5,000	„ The School of the Wisdom	...	...	...	...	5,000 0 0			
6,600	„ President's Travelling Fund	...	...	...	...	6,600 0 0	16,600	0	0
17,800	„ Depreciation:								
	On Immovable Property @ 2%	...	...	...	...	13,098 0 0			
	„ Movable Property	...	...	...	...	5,060 0 0			
	„ "Gulistan" @ 2%	...	...	...	...	305 0 0	18,463	0	0
							1,78,977	13	7

For The Theosophical Society,

EDWIN N. LORD,

Hony. Treasurer.

ADYAR

27th December, 1956

THE TREASURER'S REPORT

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 1956

INCOME									Budget		
					Rs.	A. P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	
By Rent (including Leadbeater Chambers and Bhojanasala)	50,230	12	0	52,000	
„ Fees and Dues ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28,945	8	0	24,000
„ Interest:											
Earned ...	...	...	...	...	40,068	12 3				
Less Interest on Funds and Accounts ...	...	...	...	...	9,747	14 3				
							30,320	14	0	40,000	
„ Net Income from Casuarina ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,784	2	3	2,000
„ Donations:											
Balance 1-10-1955 ...	...	...	...	...	249	4 0				
Received during the year ...	...	...	...	...	55,661	11 6				
							55,910	15	6		
Less Allocations and Grants ...	...	...	...	...	7,000	0 0				
							48,910	15	6		
Less Carried forward ...	...	...	...	...	267	3 6				
							48,643	12	0		
„ Administration Charges ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,130	0	0	7,130
„ Excess of Expense over Income for the year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,922	13	4	

Examined and found correct.

V. SOUNDARARAJAN & CO.,

Chartered Accountants.

BALANCE SHEET OF THE THEOSOPHICAL

CAPITAL AND LIABILITIES									
Capital:	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
Balance at Oct. 1, 1955 ...	...	...	...	10,14,075	5	7			
Less Adyar Library (see below) ...	...	...	...	1,83,203	2	1			
				8,30,872	3	6			
Add Adjustment on revaluation of Departmental Assets ...				5,712	4	0			
				8,36,584	7	6			
Less Excess of Expense over Income for the year ...	...	...	...	9,922	13	4			
				8,26,661	10	2			
Add Adyar Library (see separate Account) ...	...	...	...	1,87,492	5	7	10,14,153	15	9
Other Departments:									
Bhojanasala ...	2,867	9	9						
Engineering Department ...	79,594	2	11						
Garden Department ...	61,843	12	3						
Laundry ...	1,212	3	1						
Leadbeater Chambers ...	1,824	7	0						
Vasanta Press ...	1,09,023	4	0						
	2,56,365	7	0						
Funds (see notes below)									
Of the Society Interest Bearing:									
Adyar Library Endowment Fund (a)	1,24,525	13	3						
Adyar Library Building Fund (b)	1,16,086	10	3						
Adyar Besant Commemorative Fund (c)	9,75,446	2	2						
Miscellaneous Funds (a)	1,17,776	12	10						
do. do. (d)	14,028	14	9						
	13,47,864	5	3						
Of the Society Non-Interest Bearing:									
Pensions & Gratuities Fund ...	9,800	14	8	13,57,665	3	11			
Of Others Interest Bearing:									
Sri Panda Baijnath Propaganda									
Endowment Fund ...	33,544	0	5						
Miscellaneous ...	35,173	8	3						
Non-Interest Bearing ...	62,763	3	8	1,31,480	12	4	14,89,146	0	3
							85,184	15	3
							5,530	0	9
Sundry Deposits ...	...	...	...			
Sundry Creditors ...	...	...	...			
Adyar Library:									
Miscellaneous Funds ...	...	...	...	19,751	7	1			
Sundry Creditors ...	...	...	...	2,115	15	6			
Gratuities Reserve ...	...	...	...	8,893	7	10	30,760	14	5
Reserves:									
Electrical Line ...	...	...	...	6,000	0	0			
Meter and Water Line Renewal ...	...	...	...	4,000	0	0			
Supplemental Welfare ...	...	...	...	41	14	6			
Vasanta Press Contingencies Reserve ...	...	...	...	3,000	0	0			
Adyar Day Unallocated ...	...	...	...	267	3	6			
Water Tank ...	...	...	...	2,000	0	0			
Special Purposes Fund ...	...	...	...	15,035	11	6	30,344	13	6
Note.—(a) Capital and Interest available for specific purposes.									
(b) Interest available for general purposes.									
(c) Interest only available for general purposes.									
(d) Interest only available for specific purposes.									
							26,55,120	11	11

SOCIETY, ADYAR, AS ON 30TH SEPTEMBER 1956

PROPERTY AND ASSETS									
				Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
Immovable Property:									
Balance at Oct. 1, 1955				1,93,857	13	0			
Lands at Adyar				6,54,908	0	9			
Buildings							8,48,765	13	9
Add Improvements during the year							41,037	12	0
							8,89,803	9	9
Less Depreciation Reserve							2,81,874	4	0
									6,07,929 5 9
Land in Sindh									10,000 0 0
"Gulistan," Kotagiri:									
Balance at Oct. 1, 1955							15,260	6	9
Add Additions							200	0	0
							15,460	6	9
Less Depreciation Reserve							1,828	4	6
									13,632 2 3
Movable Properties, Adyar:									
Balance at Oct. 1, 1955							62,151	4	2
Less Sales							569	3	0
							61,582	1	2
Add Additions during the year							2,560	13	6
							64,142	14	8
Less Depreciation Reserve							47,586	8	0
									16,556 6 8
Investments at Cost:									
Government of India Loan 2½% to 4½% F. V. 7,68,900							7,58,665	6	9
Madras State Govt. Loan and Debentures 2½% to 4% F. V. 1,38,400							1,38,567	8	0
United Kingdom Loan, etc.							3,03,180	11	7
Surrender Value of Life Policy							17,100	0	0
Miscellaneous							11,243	4	3
									12,28,756 14 7
Interest accrued on Investments									22,010 14 1
Fees and Dues Outstanding									632 11 6
Sundry Debtors							51,386	6	9
Less Rentals billed in Advance							2,025	8	0
									49,360 14 9
Departmental Assets:									
Electrical Installation, less Depreciation							28,867	0	0
Tools, Implements, Utensils and Equipment							20,698	10	0
Printing Machinery							88,860	0	0
Supplies on hand							75,084	6	6
Accounts Recoverable and Advances							95,562	10	8
Cash on hand							945	0	0
Advance Rentals							139	0	0
Standing Crops							59,077	4	0
Prepaid Fire Insurance Premium							1,526	14	11
Adyar Library:							3,70,760	14	1
Books and Manuscripts				1,49,181	0	0			
Furniture, less Depreciation				28,771	15	0			
Stock of Publications				26,033	4	1			
Miscellaneous				1,950	13	10			
							2,05,937	0	11
									5,76,697 15 0
Cash:									
Fixed Deposit							2,637	0	3
In Madras Banks on Current Account							1,17,014	13	1
In London Bank do.							3,762	13	3
On hand							6,128	12	9
									1,29,543 7 4
									26,55,120 11 11

Examined and found correct,
V. SOUNDARARAJAN & CO.,
Chartered Accountants.

THE REPORT OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

FEES AND DUES RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR
ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1956

						Rs.	A.	P.
The Theosophical Society in	England	£	287-14-11	1955-56	..	3,819	11	6
"	Australia	£	43-15- 7	1955	..	581	7	3
"	New Zealand	£	57- 8- 3		..	762	9	6
"	Norway	£	9-13- 2		..	127	14	0
"	Wales	£	11-19- 9	1955-56	..	159	0	0
"	Greece	£	10- 0- 0		..	132	0	0
"	Germany	£	36-17-10	1954-55	..	488	13	0
"	Scotland	£	14-17- 0		..	197	5	0
"	Switzerland	£	71- 0- 3		..	940	14	6
"	N. Ireland	£	2- 2- 0		..	27	11	3
"	Belgium	£	17- 6- 7	1953-54	..	229	9	3
"	Portugal	£	15-17- 2		..	209	13	0
"	Puerto Rico	£	8- 7- 1	1955	..	110	12	0
"	S. Africa	£	17-19- 0		..	238	8	0
"	Uruguay	£	10- 0- 0		..	130	13	6
"	Italy	£	9- 3- 8	1954	..	121	11	0
"	Netherlands	£	151- 1- 4	1954-55	..	2,001	10	3
"	Austria	£	49-10- 1	1954-55	..	655	14	9
"	West Africa	£	10- 6- 2	1956	..	135	9	0
"	Br. E. Africa	£	23- 5- 6		..	308	6	0
"	U.S.A.	\$	2007.49	1955-56	..	9,537	9	0
"	Colombia	\$	28.00		..	133	2	0
"	Canada	\$	103.96		..	503	1	0
"	Mexico	\$	63.00	1955	..	293	1	0
"	Central America	\$	23.00		..	107	0	0
"	Venezuela	\$	5.00		..	21	10	0
"	Brazil	\$	131.50		..	620	8	0
"	India			1954-55	..	1,397	11	0
"	Cuba				..	157	3	3
"	France			1953-54	..	3,374	10	0
"	Argentina				..	363	4	3
"	Finland				..	315	0	0
Non-Sectionalized Lodges.		..	..	..	..	741	11	9
						28,945	8	0

FAITHFUL SERVICE FUND

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30-9-1956

DISBURSEMENTS

		Rs.	A.	P.
To Miss E. M. Amery	...	2,580	0	0
" Miss H. S. Kemp	...	720	0	0
" Madame P. Cazin	...	1,065	0	0
" Mr. Manjeri S. Rama Iyer	...	240	0	0
" Mr. C. S. Trilokekar	...	350	0	0
" Mr. C. Subbarayudu	...	900	0	0
" Contributions to the Clara Codd Pension Fund	...	1,341	13	0
" Mr. & Mrs. Sidney Ransom	...	1,391	7	0
" Money Order and Bank Commissions	...		4	8
" Balance carried over	...	65,255	0	6
		<u>73,847</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>6</u>

RECEIPTS

		Rs.	A.	P.
By Opening Balance	...	22,524	12	10
" Donations, etc.	...	50,596	15	8
" Rent	...	240	0	0
" Interest	...	486	0	0
		<u>73,847</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>6</u>

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PRESIDENT'S TRAVELLING FUND

RECEIVED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER, 1956

							Rs.	A.	P.
The T.S. in England	£ 50-	0-0	..	..	..	..	660	15	0
The T.S. in Scotland	£ 20-	0-0	..	..	..	..	265	11	9
The T.S. in Australia	A£ 3-	0-0	..	..	..	..	31	12	6
The T.S. in Wales	£ 10-	0-0	..	..	..	..	132	0	0
The T.S. in Switzerland	£ 20-	16-8	..	..	..	..	276	0	9
Mrs. Gulnar Parekh, Bombay	..		..	..	..	..	25	0	0
Mr. S. H. Vaswani, Adyar	..		..	..	..	..	1	0	0
Mr. Baijnath Bhargava, Varanasi	..		..	..	..	..	10	0	0
Mrs. O. R. Blakey, Tulsa,									
Okla	\$	10.00	..	..	..	..	46	12	9
							<u>1,449</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>9</u>

PUBLICATIONS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30-9-1956

[illegible]

For The Theosophical Society,
EDWIN N. LORD,
Hony. Treasurer.

Examined and found correct,
V. SOUNDARARAJAN & CO.,
Chartered Accountants.

ADYAR

27th December, 1956.

INCOME AND EXPENSE ACCOUNT OF THE

[illegible]

ADYAR LIBRARY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30-9-56

INCOME						Budget			
						Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.
By T.S. Contribution	...	...	...	...	...	5,000	0	0	5,000
" Adyar Day Allocation and other Donations	...	...	...	...	...	2,237	10	6	2,000
" Miscellaneous Receipts	...	...	...	...	...	665	2	0	500
" Interest on Endowments	...	...	...	...	...	6,457	4	0	7,000
" Copying and Comparing Charges	...	...	...	...	...	1,482	13	0	
" Publications Account	...	...	...	...	...	5,123	0	7	
						20,965	14	1	
" Deduction from Endowment Fund	...	...	...	...	...	17,618	7	0	
						38,584	5	1	

BALANCE SHEET OF THE

LIABILITIES AND FUNDS

					Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
<i>Endowment Fund:</i>										
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	...	...	...	...	1,42,204	4	3			
Less Excess of Expense over Income for the year	...	...	...	...	17,618	7	0	1,24,585	13	3
<i>Building Fund:</i>										
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	...	...	...	...	1,25,444	12	0			
Less Cost of Improvements:										
As on 30-9-'55	...	...	...	...	9,358	1	9	1,16,086	10	3
<i>Capital Fund:</i>										
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	...	...	...	...	1,83,203	2	1			
Add Capital expense during the year	...	...	...	...	4,289	3	6	1,87,492	5	7
<i>Publications Fund:</i>										
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	...	...	...	...	...			17,814	11	7
<i>Gratuities Reserve:</i>										
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	...	...	...	...	8,317	7	10			
Additions during the year	...	...	...	...	1,500	0	0			
					9,817	7	10			
Less Payments	...	...	...	...	924	0	0	8,893	7	10
<i>Book Deposit:</i>										
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	...	...	...	...	1,351	0	0			
Add Receipts during the year	...	...	...	...	120	0	0			
					1,471	0	0			
Less Refunds	...	...	...	...	100	0	0	1,371	0	0
Reserve for Purchase of books	...	...	...	...	...			1,000	0	0
<i>Donation Box:</i>										
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	...	...	...	...	1,252	0	6			
Less Disbursements	...	...	...	...	315	5	0	936	11	6
Sundry Creditors	...	...	...	...	...			684	15	6
								4,58,865	11	6

ADYAR

27th December 1956

For The Theosophical Society,

EDWIN N. LORD,

Hony. Treasurer.

THE TREASURER'S REPORT

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ADYAR LIBRARY AS ON 30-9-56

ASSETS				Rs.	A.	P.
Manuscripts and Books:						
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	1,49,065	0	6
Add Purchases during the year	...	...	...	115	15	6
				1,49,181	0	0
Furniture:						
Original Value as per last Balance Sheet	...	...	...	29,713	3	9
Add Purchases during the year	...	...	...	4,173	4	0
				33,886	7	9
Less Depreciation to date	...	...	...	5,114	8	9
				28,771	15	0
Stock of Publications on hand	...	...	...	26,033	4	1
Prepaid Fire Insurance Premium	...	...	...	140	13	4
Stock of Insecticides, etc.	...	...	...	930	7	6
Sundry Debtors including advances	...	...	...	829	9	0
Cash on hand	...	...	...	50	0	0
Due by the T.S.	...	...	...	2,52,928	10	7
				4,58,865	11	6

Examined and found correct,
V. SOUNDARAJAN & CO.,
Chartered Accountants.

THE ADYAR LIBRARY

BUDGET ESTIMATE—INCOME AND EXPENSE
ACCOUNT FOR 1956-'57

EXPENSE	Actuals for 1955-'56	Budget for 1956-'57	INCOME	Actuals for 1955-'56	Budget for 1956-'57
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.
To Salaries and Wages including			By T.S. Contribution ...	5,000	5,000
Copying and Comparing Charges	25,654	28,000	Adyar Day Allocation and		
Repairs, Lighting and Conser-			other Donations ...	2,238	2,000
vancy ...	1,821	2,000	Miscellaneous Receipts ...	665	600
Postages ...	765	800	Interest on Endowments	6,458	6,450
Printing and Stationery ...	2,115	2,000	Copying and Comparing		
Fire Insurance ...	195	200	Charges ...	1,483	
Miscellaneous ...	1,310	1,500	Publications Account ...	5,122	3,000
Gratuity Reserve ...	1,500	1,500	Deficit ...	17,618	19,800
Depreciation ...	847	850			
		36,850			36,850
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE					
Purchase of Books and Manu-					
scripts ...	204	1,000			
Furniture etc. ...	4,173	2,000			
		3,000			
PUBLICATION					
Publication Cost including Adyar					
Library Bulletin (<i>Brahma</i>					
<i>Vidya</i>) ...	4,343	14,000			

ANN KERR,
Director,
Adyar Library.

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

REPORTS OF THE GENERAL SECRETARIES
OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETIES, OF
PRESIDENTIAL AGENTS AND OF
FEDERATION SECRETARIES.

These reports in some instances have been translated
into English, edited or condensed in the office of the
Recording Secretary.

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

With popular attention in America focussed upon the idea of reincarnation, this has been an extraordinary year in our annals. There have been unusual opportunities to publicize Theosophy. Reincarnation is an enlightening concept, as we well know, when viewed in a Theosophical context of the evolution of the soul guided by the law of karma. But when it is isolated from this philosophy of wholeness, it can readily become a depressing speculation as to man's future. Many people who might otherwise find Theosophy helpful are repelled by partial information about reincarnation. A good use has been made of opportunities to be of service in this area of interest. We should be alerted by the present attention upon reincarnation to the approaching popularization of other themes of the Ancient Wisdom regarding man and the universe. The impending pressure upon the Theosophical Society for supplying information was never more clearly indicated than by the demand made in recent months upon the public library shelves for literature about reincarnation and related subjects. Where there has been an insufficient supply of books on the subject, waiting lists have accumulated. In Portland, Oregon, the president of the Theosophical Lodge there rose splendidly to this need by writing both the public library and the editor of a Portland paper, making known the existence of the Lodge library and offering its facilities. This kind of service was repeated elsewhere.

Thus throughout 70 years of its history, the Society's members and Lodges have performed a great service in making

Theosophical books available in most of the cities of our country. In recent years this vitally important service has become better organized and subsidized by the Theosophical Book Gift Institute. This phase of our activities is emphasized here because we have seen that it needed only a small incident to arouse a great deal of attention upon one of the central themes of Theosophy. Obviously there is a latent readiness in the minds of millions of people to consider, if not adopt Theosophical ideas. An awareness of this striking fact should be basic in our planning. Certainly other impending discoveries and developments in the immediate future will bring new confirmation of the knowledge revealed in *The Secret Doctrine*. The timeless wisdom outlined therein is destined presently to become widely recognized as rational. It will become a necessity to the philosophy and religion of tomorrow from which the cultural life will stem.

Relatively fragile though the Society's work may appear to be amidst the massive group activities of today, its supreme value is that it affords a framework into which all knowledge and experience can be integrated to wholeness of meaning. In that framework, our fragmented selves can be reassembled in a unity of being that is healing in these times. Therefore, it is with conviction of the world's quickening need of Theosophy that this review of our work is presented.

Membership.—Our membership is now 4,194 in 147 Lodges, an increase of 124 members over last year; the number of Lodges remains the same.

Lecture Activity.—The highlight of this year's programme was the return of Mr. Geoffrey Hodson, who arrived at San Francisco in November 1955. After attending the National Conference held there he travelled to the Northwest, visiting Lodges in Seattle and Portland, Vancouver in Canada and Southern California. Through the winter he lectured in Denver, Kansas City, Houston, Mexico City, New Orleans, Covington and Miami, including a visit to Cuba. Following engagements in Atlanta and St. Louis, Mr. Hodson spent a few days at Olcott and then lectured continuously in Eastern cities, returning to be the guest at the summer sessions. While at Headquarters he gave two lectures in Chicago which were attended by unusually large audiences. After the Convention at Olcott, Mr. Hodson visited Krotona at Ojai, California, for a series of classes as previously arranged with the American Section. On his way back to New Zealand Mr. Hodson visited the Lodge in Honolulu.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Norman Pearson have lectured principally in the Florida and Midwest cities this season, their itinerary being so planned that they were able to visit most of the Lodges on their route to Florida both going and returning. In Florida they toured the Federation, including a week in Havana, Cuba. They remained part of the winter at Headquarters completing new tape visuals and participating in the March workshop. They plan to go to Adyar for a year where Mr. Pearson will be occupied in writing a volume on Theosophy.

In the autumn the National President and Mrs. Perkins visited Eastern Lodges, stopping in Detroit on their way to attend an outstanding tri-State Federation weekend meeting. They were present at the first National Conference in San Francisco, and later the National President

delivered a series of lectures in Chicago on reincarnation. A further tour was undertaken in March, and the National President and Mrs. Perkins carried out a programme of lectures and meetings at St. Petersburg in Florida, as well as attending the Conventions of the Florida Federation and later the Gulf Coast Federation in Fairhope, Alabama.

The Spotlight Activity.—The word S-P-O-T is made up from the first letters of the words "Speed-up Popularization of Theosophy". This activity is a concentrated effort to bring new vitality to Lodge work, to found new Lodges and to strengthen the smaller ones; it represents the united strength of the Section focussed in a designated locality through a team of workers, led by Mr. and Mrs. Felix Layton. This year the method was to select four cities with small Lodges or ones that had become inactive and make a concentrated effort to interest new public in Theosophy. During the first two weeks lectures on Theosophy's tenets were given, and during the next five weeks the basic concepts were developed. Reports indicate that this year the audiences are generally larger, sometimes by as much as 50 per cent, or in outstanding instances by 100 per cent.

National Theosophical Conference at San Francisco.—The inauguration of this Conference, which was held during Thanksgiving week and which had been preceded by a year's planning, marked the culmination of a hope to have the Society's Convention scheduled in different parts of the country. One of its important purposes was discussion of fundamental questions concerning the work of the Society. These questions had been formulated months in advance and publicized for discussion in all Lodges and Federations. The Conference was a great success in every way. Mr. Geoffrey Hodson's arrival in the Section coincided

with the sessions and his many contributions made the Conference a memorable event.

Investment Trust.—The Theosophical Investment Trust is an important addition to the Section's financial structure, intended to create confidence in prospective donors as to the permanent soundness of management of their funds given to the Society's use. During the year the Trust has met several times to organize the work under the chairmanship of Mr. Sidney A. Cook. A booklet containing the Trust instrument has been published and distributed to all members in America. The Trust affords a substantial means through which the Society can hope to prepare for a larger future.

Financial.—Although the Society's regular income from dues has remained stationary this year, the expenses have continued to increase, and donations and bequests have had to be used to balance expenses. Over a period of ten or twelve years, however, it has been found that all expenses have been met and a surplus accumulated, which will be reserved to act as a cushion during years when there may be no donations. The whole question of whether the larger donations and bequests, such as Dr. Ohlendorf's, should be treated as income to defray costs of current operations or whether they should be set aside as capital to be invested to add to the Society's fixed income, or, if thought necessary, whether these capital funds could be used to finance new national programmes, was a matter considered by the National Convention and a resolution was adopted to place the matter before the membership for action by referendum.

Department of Information.—The number of new enquirers, 1,052, contacting the Department of Information shows an increase of 100 over last year, nearly double the number contacted four years ago,

and this has increased the distribution of publicity leaflets by over one-third to 15,000. Interest has been predominantly on reincarnation. Sixty-six new members joined the Society through this department and seven more were reinstated.

Department of Education.—The Department of Education approaches the end of its fourth year of service. As in previous years workshops were held in September and March, the September one concentrating on the further preparation of teachers and group leaders, the March one on training Lodge officers and workers. Nearly all the Federations and 24 Lodges have been represented at the workshops. Besides the training received the workshops provide an invaluable opportunity for a close contact with Headquarters. There has been a 50 per cent increase in the number of slides purchased by Lodges, and tape visuals and other material for future lectures and study classes, as well as the department's consultation service, have continued to be highly popular.

National Library.—The facilities of the National Library of nearly 10,500 books have been extensively used throughout the year, over 2,600 volumes being circulated. The increase in inventory averages 25 books per month. Twenty reading lists are now available.

The Theosophical Press.—The Press reports an increased volume of sales; publicity pamphlets and leaflets distributed totalled 38,000. In addition to reprinted works and importations from Adyar, three new publications have been issued: *The Nature of the Soul* by Mr. Arthur M. Coon, *The Quest for the Quiet Mind* by Mr. Fritz Kunz, and *Reincarnation for Everyone* by Mr. James S. Perkins. There has been an increase in subscriptions to the international magazine, *The Theosophist*.

The American Theosophist.—Two new features have been introduced: "Guides

in Lodge Study," designed to assist the Lodges in planning study programmes, and "Perspective," pointing up Theosophical interpretations on topics of current interest. With more Lodges reporting their activities, the Lodge Activities section continues undoubtedly to be the magazine's most popular feature. A poetry page "Rhythms in Words" has been added.

Discovery.—Approximately 83,000 copies of *Discovery* were issued to 84 Lodges, and an additional 450 each month go to the Canadian Federation. The material is especially chosen for reaching the public.

Radio.—This year 29 stations have broadcast Theosophy regularly, and an increasing number of Lodges are extending their broadcasts over the entire year. The Foundation for Radio Theosophy has supplied material for over 657 broadcasts; it already has a stock of tapes for two years of broadcasting, and is now engaged in selecting new material for a third year. The National Radio Committee established last year governs all matters of policy and finance in connection with the National Society's programme of broadcasting, and a set of standards for radio broadcasting has been drawn up and distributed to all Lodges carrying on radio programmes. It has also been published in *The American Theosophist*. The source of supply for original scripts is through the Script Committee composed of a representative from each Federation and one from Headquarters. The contest conducted this year received 23 scripts, and the award was given to Mrs. Edith Latimer for her script entitled "Fate or Free Will?"

Olcott Foundation.—Thirteen entries, a record number, were received. The Olcott award was made to Mrs. Edith Latimer for her lecture entitled "Wisdom Revealed through Phenomena". An hon-

orable mention went to Mrs. R. C. Line for her lecture, "It's a Great Day for the Theosophical Society".

The American Honorary Theosophical Lecture.—This was introduced last year and the initial award went to Mr. Fritz Kunz, who gave the public a splendid lecture on "The Quest for the Quiet Mind," which was later published in booklet form. Mr. William Ross was chosen to deliver the second of the series at the 1956 Convention.

Contact.—This is a monthly letter, initiated last year, to highlight various aspects of our work and call attention to significant activities. It is from the National President to the Lodge presidents, and is intended to create closer contact. One copy of the letter is also exhibited on the notice board of each Lodge so that every member may read it.

The Theosophical Book Gift Institute.—The range of book placements has been extended during the year, approximately 5,500 books being distributed, more than in any previous year. A total of 629 libraries were visited.

Theosophical Book Association for the Blind.—Mr. and Mrs. Roy Snyder have just returned from their work in Pakistan and India. During their absence their trained staff of workers and voluntary helpers efficiently carried on the work. Seventy new volumes were added to the Braille Library, from which 656 books were borrowed in 1955. The services of the Soundsciber Library have continued, as well as the quarterly publication of the *Braille Star Theosophist*. Four blind readers joined the Braille Lodge during the year. Some of the members themselves help with the transcribing and proof-reading for the Braille Library.

The Theosophical Order of Service.—Most of the departments of the T.O.S. are active. The Social Service department has contributed substantially to the

rehabilitation of families in the Greek Refugee Camp. They have also contributed services to the Braille Lodge blind groups and given instruction to lame children. Over 25,000 booklets *To Those Who Mourn* were distributed—a record number. The Animal Welfare department is untiring in its efforts to allay the widespread abuse of animals; the Peace department and the Healing department with 12 groups, are all active. The *Watcher* furnishes information regarding the Order. The Arts and Crafts department in the division of Music has been endeavoring to assist in clarifying and deepening the appreciation of music, with effective use with Lodge programmes.

Mothers' Research Group.—This group has focussed emphasis on publications, especially the *Mothers' Bulletin*.

Young Theosophists.—Two outstanding accomplishments of the year have been the completion of the Youth Circle at Olcott, and the success of a bazaar held

at the summer sessions, the proceeds of which have been set aside for a future youth dormitory at Headquarters. Two new Y.T. groups have been organized.

Conclusion.—This report is concluded with mention of the special links that have been maintained with our International Headquarters, contacts with Adyar continuing through correspondence upon numerous matters of business, including the Section's contributions to various funds: The A.B.C. Fund, the Raja Commemorative Fund, and the Adyar Day collection which for the American Section totalled \$5,652. We approach the coming season and the years ahead realizing that the standards of our Society are being maintained and that we are meeting courageously the opportunities offered us to bring into the modern world the enlightenment of Theosophy that will make brotherhood a living reality.

JAMES S. PERKINS,

General Secretary.

ENGLAND

The report for the past year is not as good as we would wish. There has been a slight ebb in the life of the Society throughout England. Membership has slightly declined, in spite of the addition of 259 new members. This is partly accounted for by the fact that 112 members were transferred to the West African Federation. Partly also because owing to the rise in the cost of living we had to raise our Sectional subscription, and although the Executive Committee is always ready to reduce fees, a certain number refused to accept reduction and left the Society. There have also grown up in this country many societies teaching in one case Theosophy and in others concentrating on some aspect of it, mainly

along psychological lines, such as diabetics and scientology, and especially yoga, and these have also drawn away some of our members. There seems, however, to be a distinct recrudescence of life once more throughout the Section, greatly fostered by the visits of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Wood and Mr. Rohit Mehta. The latter was the guest speaker at Convention and also gave most generously of his inspiration and knowledge to the Lodges throughout the country. We are indebted to him for the very great help and inspiration he gave to all.

We had looked forward with much eagerness to a talk from our beloved President, Mr. Sri Ram, on his visit to England in September, but were greatly

disappointed that he was not well enough to speak. Mr. E. L. Gardner came to the rescue, and members had the joy of hearing him once more. No one else could so fitly have substituted. He gave a very wonderful lecture on the Deva Kingdom.

The Annual Convention held at Whit-sun was inspiring and successful, the highlights being the lecture by the guest speaker, Mr. Rohit Mehta, and the excellent Blavatsky Lecture by Mr. Leonard Soper on "The Opening of the Doors of the Mind". White Lotus Day on May 8, and Adyar Day on February 17, were both celebrated; at the former Mr. Rohit Mehta was the speaker, and at the latter Miss Helen Zahara.

A very successful summer school was held at The Hayes, Swanwick, Derbyshire, from July 26—August 3, which was well attended not only by members of the British Isles but by many very welcome visitors from other countries, including those as far distant as Viet-Nam and America.

The European Congress at Baden, Austria, proved to be a very happy occasion under the inspiring leadership of the President. England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland were all represented by their respective General Secretaries, the only one missing being the General Secretary of Ireland, Mrs. Hornidge, who unfortunately was not sufficiently recovered from her illness to attend. Dr. Corona Trew and Capt. Paul also attended as delegates, besides several other members from the British Isles.

Camps at Tekels Park, Camberley, including a Round Table Camp, were once more a feature of our summer activities. Tekels Park *plus* Mr. Gardner proves a great attraction to all and sundry, including the weekend conferences held by the Theosophical Research Centre.

A new venture has been the production and circulation of tape-recorded lectures

this year. Seventy lectures have been recorded, and these are greatly in demand by the Lodges and Centres, particularly those that are not able to arrange for visits from lecturers.

The Study and Training Committee has worked during the year on the preparation of a study course entitled "What is Man?" Ten study courses on various aspects of Theosophy are now available, and there is usually a good demand for these.

The Publicity Department continues to be active. Fifty-eight lecture tours have been arranged during the year. Advertising on the London Underground brings in enquiries, and that and other advertising seem to have made the word Theosophy familiar to a wide public. Discussion meetings are becoming more popular than lectures generally. Dr. Trew continues to hold her *Secret Doctrine* Study Class, which is very popular and well attended. A course on public speaking, led by Mrs. Gardner, was attended by an encouraging number of young members. At the New Year a study weekend was held at Headquarters under the general title of "The Way of Attainment," at which lectures on three religions were given. The Besant Hall was used for public lectures in October, April and May. Mr. Rohit Mehta spoke at two of these, and also to five Lodges in the suburbs of London, apart from his extensive tours in other parts of the country. He also held two Question and Answer meetings at Headquarters.

Good work has been done in all the seven Federations, which hold regular conferences and study weekends.

Headquarters Library continues to be a most useful piece of propaganda work. About 10,000 books have been exchanged during the year and there is a large postal service. There are nearly 200 non-F.T.S. subscribers.

The Enquiry Room is open daily and the sale of books has been well maintained. Teas are served in the Members' Room on weekdays when members and their friends are welcome. A number of visitors from abroad have again visited us this year.

The Theosophical Publishing House reports that the following books have been published: *Fields of Force* by W. Duncan; *The Mental Body* by A. E. Powell (reprint); *The Opening of the Doors of the Mind* by L. C. Soper (Blavatsky Lecture for 1956).

The work of the Theosophical Order of Service continues. There are now groups dealing with the following: Race Relations; Animal Welfare; Refugees; International Co-operation; Healing; Children's Care; Borstal after-care (see *Theosophical News and Notes*, Nov.-Dec. issue). The above work is organized under Sec-

tional control co-ordinated by the central committee, the chairman of which is Mr. John Coats. The work of collecting clothes and money for refugees on the Continent continues. We are now nearing the completion of the sixth consignment of clothes, in addition to individual parcels to our members in Yugoslavia, which will tend to increase since meeting a number of these members at Baden from whom we were able to learn in greater detail of their exact requirements.

Taking over as the new General Secretary I cannot help being impressed by the spirit of happy devotion that pervades all the work. There is a strong feeling that we are entering a new age—an age during which a new type of consciousness will develop or unfold.

ALICE L. BERRY,
General Secretary.

INDIA

This has been a year of smooth and steady progress. We have left behind the 65th milestone in the course of our Theosophical journey, and by our work during the year have added greatly to the rich and varied experience of Theosophical work in India built up in the course of six decades or more.

The year under review has witnessed much political agitation in this country consequent upon the scheme of the States' Reorganization launched by the Government. This agitation was only an outer expression of the deep under-currents pulsating in the life of New India. Ever since 1947, when India achieved her political Independence, the peoples of this vast sub-continent have been trying to seek their individuality through political, economic, social, educational and other means. A nation cannot stabilize itself

unless it finds its individuality. The search for individuality, which is only another word for a unifying and sustaining force capable of keeping the diverse parts of a country's national life together, is a very difficult and arduous process. The deeper the source from which this unifying force emanates, the greater will be its capacity to sustain the weight of the national superstructure. At present in India economic schemes, language patterns, and social plans are regarded as this source whereas it is in India's spiritual and cultural life that this unifying force is to be found. We must re-discover India's unity there.

It is against this background that the work of the Theosophical Society assumes a special significance in this country, for our work as Theosophists must bear a close relationship to the needs of the

country. India today needs the linking up of her national life with the spiritual and cultural source which has sustained her civilization all through the ages. The impact of modern industrial and technological civilization has clouded the vision of our countrymen. It should be our work to clarify that vision.

Buddhism Comes Home.—One of the most outstanding events that took place in India during the year was the country-wide celebration of the 2,500th birth anniversary of the Lord Buddha. It is gratifying to see the great religion of Buddhism returning to the land of its source and bringing with it the rich harvest of experiences gathered in different countries, East and West. Among the Indian peoples, too, there is an increased interest in Buddhism which will no doubt greatly enrich the religious life of this land. This event of Buddhistic revival is of deep significance to Theosophists. Let us hope His teachings will inspire the people of India more and more, and guide them in the reconstruction of the national life of this ancient land.

Lecture Tours.—During the year, our International President was able to preside over the South Indian Theosophical Conference held at Adyar at Easter and also the Tamil Districts Theosophical Conference held in November 1955. For more than four months he was away from India visiting the South American Sections of the Theosophical Society. In the Indian Section, as in all the other Sections, he is loved and respected by all. His deep wisdom and intensely simple life have endeared him to all and the Society is indeed fortunate to have him at the helm of affairs during this critical period in the life of humanity.

Shrimati Rukmini Devi visited Poona, Bombay, Varanasi, Patna, Gaya and Jabalpur during the year. She presided over the Marathi Federation session at

Jabalpur and also inaugurated the Bihar Theosophical Federation session at Gaya.

The General Secretary. During the year I presided over the Uttar Pradesh and Marathi Federation sessions held at Fatehgarh and Nagpur respectively, and conducted a camp of Theosophical students and workers held at Surat. I also visited the Bombay, Ahmedabad and Delhi Lodges. I was out of India for four months from April to August visiting Lodges in England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and Eire. I went to the United Kingdom at the invitation of the English Section. During my four months' stay there I visited 62 Lodges and attended the annual Conventions of the English and the Scottish Sections and the Northern Ireland Federation.

Shrimati Shridevi Mehta was appointed by the Indian Section Council at its meeting held at Adyar in December 1955 to officiate as General Secretary during my absence from India from April to August 1956. During the year she presided over the Bihar Theosophical Federation session held at Gaya. She conducted one Regional camp of Theosophical students and workers at Juhu, Bombay, as also a Youth camp at Broach. She also helped in conducting a camp of Theosophical students and workers at Varanasi and at Surat.

During the year Shrimati Shridevi Mehta visited Aurangabad, Dehri-on-Sone, Muzaffarpur and Chapra, in the Bihar Federation; Mirzapur and Fatehgarh in the Uttar Pradesh Federation. She also went to Nagpur, Delhi, Bombay and Ahmedabad.

Shri M. Subramaniam presided over the Andhra Circars Federation session held at Yellamanchili, and visited Calcutta. He made an extensive lecture tour of the South-East Asian countries of Ceylon, Indonesia, Malaya, Singapore

and Burma. His visits greatly strengthened the Theosophical work in those countries.

Mrs. Nedra Ruder of the American Section, who came to India in 1955 to attend the School of the Wisdom, was invited by the Executive Committee of the Indian Section to undertake a lecture tour of the Indian Section during the year. In the course of six months she made an extensive tour visiting Lodges in the Karnataka, Marathi, Bombay, Gujarati, Andhra Circars and Rayalaseema Federations. In all she visited 36 places giving public lectures and talks to members which were greatly appreciated everywhere. She also helped in the Regional camp held at Juhu. Her tour has been of immense benefit to the Section and I wish to express our heartfelt gratitude to her on behalf of the Indian Section for all the splendid help given to our work in this country.

Shri Harjivan Mehta conducted two study camps in the Madhya Bharat and Delhi Federations and visited Lodges in the Bombay Federation.

Mrs. M. R. Dhalla visited Lodges in the Gujarat Federation, as also in Poona.

Shri S. G. Venkataramanan visited 18 Lodges in the Tamil Federation and 13 in the Andhra Circars Federation.

Over and above these, Professor R. Srinivasan, Shri Shambhu Dayal, Shri S. N. Chowdhary and Shrimati Indumati Mehta visited Lodges in Delhi, Tamil, Bombay and Madhya Bharat-Rajasthan Federations.

Passed Over.—During the year 64 members of the Indian Section passed away. We remember them all with sincere gratefulness. In terms of physical plane activities the Section has been rendered poorer due to the passing away of these devoted members. I would like to make special reference to the following five members

because of their outstanding services to the Indian Section:—Dr. James H. Cousins, Shri C. S. Trilokekar, Shri I. J. Tarporewalla, Shri Jagat Narayan, Mr. Henry van de Poll.

Membership.—We began the year with a membership of 6,428. During the year 787 new members came into the Society, 280 revived their membership, and two members were transferred from other Sections. As against this, 64 members died, 31 resigned, 7 transferred their membership to other Sections and 593 members dropped out for non-payment of dues. The membership of the Indian Section thus stands at 6,802 on 1st October 1956—an increase of 374 members.

Lodges and Centres.—We began the year with 426 Lodges and 59 Centres affiliated to the Indian Section. During the year 14 new Lodges and 6 new Centres were formed and 2 dormant Lodges and one dormant Centre were revived. In the course of the year, 5 Centres were raised to the status of Lodges. As against this, 25 Lodges were dissolved and 8 Centres were declared non-active. Thus at the close of the year we had 417 Lodges and 53 Centres, a total of 470 constituent units of the Indian Section as against 485 last year.

Study Camps.—One of the special features of our work in the Indian Section during the last few years has been the holding of study camps. These camps are becoming more and more effective for the intensification of our work. During the year two Regional camps were held, one at Juhu (Bombay) and the other at Adyar. The first was conducted by Shrimati Shridevi Mehta assisted by Shri Harjivan Mehta and Mrs. Nedra Ruder, with delegates from Bombay, Gujarat and Marathi Federations attending. The camp at Adyar was under the direction of Dr. C. R. Kamath and was attended by delegates from South Indian Federations.

At the Federation level, study camps were held during the year in Andhra Circars, Bihar, Gujarati, Karnataka, Madhya-Bharat, Tamil, Uttar Pradesh and Youth Federations, as well as several camps of short duration.

The Theosophical Review.—The Section journal has in recent years grown into an effective link between the various units of Theosophical work in India. It has now become a bi-lingual journal, a few pages of Hindi having been added this year. English and Hindi are the two languages that function at present at the national level and probably that position will continue for many years. Although the Section journal involves a heavy item of expenditure, I am of the opinion that this is legitimate because a large Section like ours must have a respectable journal of its own.

Hindi Publications.—One of the most important activities at the Section Headquarters has been that of publishing Theosophical books in Hindi. This work is being done under the auspices of the Ananda Prakashan, an independent body having no official connection with the Indian Section, but as it has been engaged in publishing Theosophical books I refer to it in my reports. There are 48 Theosophical books now available in Hindi. Unfortunately, we had to discontinue the publication of the Hindi journal *Ananda*. This work of Hindi publications is being carried on by Shrimati Shridevi Mehta, Shri Ramachandra Shukla and Shri K. G. Bhadbhade.

Practical Work.—Many a time it is stated that Theosophists are not doing any practical work; that apart from lectures and study classes there is nothing else that they do. There is no reason why lectures and study classes should not be regarded as practical work. Dissemination of ideas and transformation of human minds is as practical, if not more so, as the distribution of goods and reconstruction of

institutions and organizations. But, as it is, Theosophists in India are engaged not merely in lecturing and study class work—they are connected with a number of educational, cultural and humanitarian activities.

The main emphasis of practical work in India is, however, educational. At the Section Headquarters there are three institutions, the Besant Theosophical School, the Vasanta Kanya Mahavidyalaya and the Bharatiya Sangeet Vidyalaya which contribute richly to the life there. All over the country, in practically all the Federations, Theosophists are conducting educational institutions. To every big Lodge of the Theosophical Society in India is attached a library which is open to the public. At numerous places our members are engaged in the Scout movement, in Harijan work, in women's organizations, in work among prisoners, in running charitable dispensaries for the poor, etc. These activities are being carried on individually or in groups.

Work in Delhi.—My report for the year would be incomplete without mention of the growth and development of Theosophical work in Delhi—the Capital of the Indian Republic. Some years ago a plot of land was acquired in Delhi for the construction of a building which would serve as our Theosophical Headquarters in the Capital. During the year much progress has been made in the direction of constructing this building because of the generous donation by Mrs. Kagal, Vice-President of the Delhi Theosophical Federation and a prominent social worker. Shri B. P. Sinha, one of the Judges of the Supreme Court and President of the Delhi Theosophical Federation, Mrs. Kagal and Shri P. L. Bhargava, Secretary of the Federation, have been working tirelessly for the construction of this Headquarters building in Delhi. In April 1956, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, President of the Indian

Republic, laid the foundation stone and within six months the main hall (with two rooms attached for office and reading room) have been completed. The building looks dignified—though small—and has a spacious lawn in front of it which can be used for big outdoor meetings.

Railway Concession.—From 1950 onwards we have been making strenuous efforts to obtain concessions in railway fares for our members who attend conferences and Conventions. So far, all our representations to the Railway Board for the inclusion of the Theosophical Society in the list of institutions receiving railway concessions have failed. Curiously enough, our request has been turned down because the Government regards the Theosophical Society as a sectarian movement! I feel the time has come when a strong public opinion should be created in India impressing upon the Government the non-sectarian character of the Society and, therefore, requesting the grant of railway concessions to its members attending Theosophical Conventions.

Panda Baijnath Endowment.—In 1936 Shri Panda Baijnath created an endowment of Rs. 21,000-0-0 for the work of the Indian Section, the interest to be used every year for the travelling expenses of a National Lecturer of the Indian Section. We are very grateful to Shri Panda Baijnath for this munificent donation. I was the first to be appointed as National Lecturer in 1937. For a number of years no National Lecturer could be appointed, but since 1949 every year we have used the interest to meet the travelling expenses of our National Lecturers since engaged. Shri U. G. Krishnamurti was appointed for two years, and from 1951 onwards Shri M. Subramaniam has been National Lecturer. In 1955-56 we invited Mrs. Nedra Ruder to tour Lodges in India as a National Lecturer. This endowment has thus been of very great value in the

work of the Section. The Fund stands today at Rs. 33,900-7-8. We would like this to be increased by fresh donations from persons who can afford it, so that out of the interest we can offer travelling expenses to more than one National Lecturer.

The Section Headquarters.—The work at the Section Headquarters has been going on smoothly in the different departments of the work. Apart from the departmental work, a number of other activities are regularly carried on at the Headquarters, in which the residents take part: Group Meditation on Mondays, Household meetings on Thursdays, the Ritual of the Mystic Star, the Bharata Samaj Puja, the Healing Ritual. There are functioning at the Section Headquarters two Theosophical Lodges—the Kashi Tattva Sabha and the Annie Besant Youth Lodge, and also a branch of the League for Indian Womanhood.

I wish to thank all my colleagues at the Headquarters for the wholehearted co-operation they have given me in the administration of the estate.

"Shanti Kunj".—The Indian Section urgently needs to renovate the building at the Section Headquarters which is known as "Shanti Kunj," where Dr. Besant lived for many years and where the President stays when he visits the Section Headquarters. The building is now more than 60 years old and needs major repairs. We have started a fund called the Shanti Kunj Renovation Fund. Being the home of Dr. Besant, I feel sure that the members of the Indian Section will contribute generously to this fund so that the building may be saved.

Our Future Work.—I wish to draw the attention of the members, and particularly of the Lodge and Federation workers, to certain aspects of our work which need to be attended to during the coming year. We need to turn our serious attention, in

each Federation, to the creation of trained personnel for our Lodge work. A Lodge raises or lowers the dignity of the whole Theosophical Society by what it does in the conduct of its affairs. Each Lodge should devote some time to consider such important factors in Lodge work as the arrangement of study classes, organization of public lectures, publicity, library, contact with members, contact with educational, cultural, religious and humanitarian movements and administration.

It would be desirable to have weekend camps in each Federation to consider the above-mentioned as well as other matters. Our 470 Lodges and Centres form a vast network. If these units could function effectively, there would be a tremendous force generated for the cause of Theosophy and the Theosophical Society in this country.

Visiting Lecturers.—For the last two years we have been enlisting the services of honorary lecturers on a national basis. This has proved quite effective—but as India is such a vast country, it is necessary to have many more visiting lecturers than we have at present. I request all those who can spare time and energy to join in this work, which will imply going out of one's own Federation area.

It is the experience of most of us that lecturing work requires a watchfulness to observe the needs of the people. Theosophical lecturers must relate Theosophy to the fundamental problems of the men and women who form their audiences. Today people have begun to feel the impact of acute psychological problems. The message of Theosophy should enable people to understand the causes of their psychological suffering. Thus a psychological approach through Theosophy has

become almost imperative if our lecturing work is to be effective.

Association of Teachers.—As education has been for many years one of the distinguishing features of the work of Theosophists in India, I feel it would be greatly desirable to have a Theosophical Teachers' Association in India. There are all over the country no less than five hundred—perhaps more—members of the Indian Section who are engaged in educational work as teachers, lecturers and professors. They thus have before them a wide scope for educational work along Theosophical lines. In order that this may be done effectively, it is desirable that teachers should come together for discussion of educational matters. Conferences of these teachers, and Theosophical seminars on education to enable teachers to clarify their understanding of Theosophy as well as education, could be held periodically at different places. An Association like this would prove a powerful instrument for infusing a true Theosophical spirit in education. When our country is faced with vast problems of education and the approach to it seems to be more quantitative than qualitative, an Association of Theosophical teachers can make a substantial contribution in evolving a right approach.

I specially wish to draw the attention of our members to this threefold aspect of our work: (1) an organizational integration at the Lodge level; (2) an emphasis on the psychological approach in our presentation of Theosophy; and (3) an Association of Theosophical Teachers serving as an instrument for infusing a new spirit in education; these can well become our platform of work during the coming year.

ROHIT MEHTA,
General Secretary.

AUSTRALIA

The important events of 1956 have been the National Convention in Perth, March 29th—April 2nd, and Miss Helen Zahara's tour of the Section.

This was the first All-Australian Convention held in Western Australia and its effect has been to bring east and west together and consolidate the whole Section in a way not possible before. Perth Lodge was chartered sixty years ago, on 10th June 1897, and as our western outpost has developed a high degree of self-reliance.

The theme of Convention—"Shaping the Future of Australia"—evoked a synthesis of cultural and spiritual ideals along the line of Australia's evolutionary advance. The national destiny was summed up in the General Secretary's Convention lecture entitled "Australia's Opportunity".

Some important objectives were achieved: Besides establishing the Theosophical Order of Service in Perth and authorizing the purchase of a Ferrograph tape recorder for the Section, Convention set up an Interstate Library Committee at Sydney Headquarters to handle the distribution of Theosophical books to public libraries, metropolitan and country, throughout Australia. This long-range plan is already in operation, the first choice of books for donation being *The Other Side of Death* (C. W. Leadbeater) and *Reincarnation* (Annie Besant).

A summer school, April 3rd—6th, discussed modern developments in science, problems of youth, and the dharma of the Theosophical Society in national life.

Miss Zahara arrived at Perth in April shortly after Convention and began a Section tour as National Lecturer. She has already been as far north as Cairns and Atherton in Queensland and is now in Melbourne. Her attractive approach, her intimate knowledge of the Society's

affairs, and her illustrated travelogues are important factors in her presentation. She is strengthening the work everywhere, both the metropolitan Lodges and the smaller isolated Lodges which benefit so much from such a visit. She is keen on supplying these smaller Lodges especially with tape-recorded lectures. Miss Zahara visits New Zealand over Christmas and returns to Australia for the 1957 Easter Convention.

Membership.—The trend is still upwards. The total on 30th September 1956 was 1,225, a slight increase of 8 on the previous year's total of 1,217. The largest Lodges are Blavatsky (Sydney) and Melbourne with just over 300 each, Brisbane Lodge having 156, Adelaide 112 and Perth 113. The Lodges have continued to work harmoniously and with enthusiasm. Our principal Lodges are 500 miles apart and Perth Lodge 2,000 miles from Sydney, so that visiting lecturers and Convention gatherings are welcome occasions.

The School of the Wisdom.—Miss Shirley Macpherson and Miss Audrey Lymer, Adelaide Lodge, left by steamer in August to attend the current session of the School at Adyar.

Broadcasting.—Listeners in all the States except Western Australia are able to tune in to our 15-minute session on Station 2GB Sydney every Sunday night. This Station was founded by Theosophists thirty years ago and we broadcast under a long-term contract. A Radio Talks Committee reads the copy, thus ensuring a high standard.

Section Journal.—*Theosophy in Australia* is now printing 1,250 copies for members and subscribers. It is indispensable for keeping members in touch with Headquarters and with one another in this country of "magnificent distances".

The Young Theosophists.—The Young Theosophists are vigorous in the larger Lodges and show vision and originality in their presentations; they incline more to symposiums and group discussions than solo addresses. Their journal *Fraternity* is published regularly. The annual Youth Conference held during the Section Convention, and Interstate summer schools are of great value in co-ordinating the widely separated groups.

Donations to Adyar.—The Section has donated to Adyar Funds for the 12 months ended 30th September 1956, a total of £251-10-1.

Finance.—The financial position is sound. The Section is receiving some

financial assistance from investments in Broadcasting Station 2GB Pty. Limited.

U.N. celebrations were held on special days and support was given to Buddhist societies which are raising funds for building a temple in Sydney.

On the whole the Section has had a year of steady effort. The advance is not spectacular, but those who are vitally engaged in the work realize that Theosophical ideas are spreading in the country, and that this effort is achieved not only by propaganda but no less definitely by the quality of living of the individual Theosophist.

J. L. DAVIDGE,
General Secretary.

SWEDEN

The activities of the Swedish Section are mainly concentrated in about 12 of the 21 Lodges. These active Lodges have regular meetings for members, study classes and public lectures, while activities in the other Lodges are less frequent. Besides this work in the Lodges some special events have taken place.

In November 1955 the Section had a most appreciated visit by Mr. Axel von Fielitz-Coniar from Germany. He visited Lodges in Stockholm, Gothenburg and Örebro, gave public lectures, and addressed members at Headquarters on the 80th Anniversary Day of the Society.

In March 1956 a series of public lectures was given in one of the well-known lecture halls of Stockholm. The keynote for the lectures was: "What does Theosophy answer to the questions of modern man?" Some 150 people attended each lecture, and a meeting for discussion and questions was held a few days after each. About a hundred from the audience put

their names down for further contact with the Theosophical Society.

The Convention of the Swedish Section was held May 12th-13th, in Stockholm, with the usual business meetings, lecture, etc. Mr. Gösta Lindström was elected as the new General Secretary in the spring.

In the latter part of August this year the Swedish Section had its summer school at Stensund, south of Stockholm. As guest and main speaker we were glad to see Mrs. Doris Groves from London. We appreciated very much her natural and clear way of talking about deep things and of making them understood in their bearing on daily life. The keynote of the summer school was: "Theosophy and modern problems," and its aspects were considered in talks and discussions. About 40 persons, members and some sympathizers, attended.

In Stockholm a group of Young Theosophists is meeting regularly. Part of that group attended the summer school, where they had their own meetings as well

as joining the ordinary meetings of the school.

A few lecture tours to Lodges have been undertaken by Swedish lecturers. The main difficulty in supporting the smaller Lodges and reviving the work where it has gone down, is the lack of good lecturers who have the time needed to travel.

The need for a good, modern presentation of Theosophy has long been felt in the Section. To meet this need a special issue of the sectional magazine was pub-

lished, containing articles chosen to give many different aspects of Theosophy and the activities of the Theosophical Society. Extra copies will be used during the next few years as an introduction to Theosophy. Annie Besant's book *Thought Power, its Control and Culture* has been reprinted in Swedish.

The Section has at present 393 members and 21 Lodges.

GÖSTA LINDSTRÖM,
General Secretary.

NEW ZEALAND

Touring Lecturers.—Mr. Geoffrey Hodson, International Lecturer and Author, gave us the benefit of his help and experience for the earlier part of this year, and has now arrived back from a ten months' tour of America, Canada, Mexico, Cuba and Hawaii to help us for the ensuing six months, and be the chief guest lecturer at our Diamond Jubilee Convention this coming Christmas, and at our Easter summer school.

Mrs. E. Marion Lavender, M.A., L.L.A., arrived at the beginning of the year for a seven months' tour. Her lectures including *Secret Doctrine* study classes, and her general helpfulness have been so beneficial and popular that our Section has invited her to stay as guest lecturer for the whole of 1956 and as far into 1957 as she can arrange. In our Dunedin Convention she brought inspiration, enthusiasm and joy with teaching into our gatherings. Her warm presentation of straight Theosophy and her ever readiness to help has endeared her to all our members.

Mr. F. Goodey, J.P., our National Lecturer, has visited all the Lodges in both Islands and most of our Drawing-room Groups. He has been most helpful and

has evoked loving response in the hearts of all with whom he has come in contact.

Miss Sandra Chase, past National Lecturer, has made several lecture tours bringing inspiration to the public in general and the solution of personal problems to many of our members. It will be a sacrifice for our Section to spare her to be guest lecturer for the Southern African Convention, Easter 1957, and during the six months or so while she is lecturing in South, East and Central Africa and Rhodesia.

Bishop H. H. Banks has very generously lectured throughout both Islands, conducted very successfully enquirers' classes for the H.P.B. Lodge through the year, led our Round Table activities, and been a great source of help in every way.

Miss Mary Graham returned with enriched experience from her lecture tour of the British Isles and her visit to Adyar, and has generously toured our Lodges. Her understanding and love of India have helped us to realize the wonder and inner heart of that great land.

Miss N. M. J. Finlayson, who represented our Section at the Australian Convention in Perth last Easter, returned from

Adyar during the year and lectured at a number of our Lodges.

The General Secretary, Mr. Brian Dunningham, and many others have lectured at our Lodges and outside organizations such as Rotary Clubs, Chambers of Commerce, Travel Clubs, University Groups, and Women's Organizations, and carried out considerable publicity and propaganda work.

Membership.—120 new members have joined our Section this year, 9 rejoined or transferred from overseas, 11 resigned, 5 were transferred to other Sections, 11 lapsed and 16 have been called to higher service. A net increase of 86 brings our membership to 1,063 as at the 30th September 1956, as compared with 977 at the same time last year.

Drawing-Room Groups.—New Groups have been formed in Levin and Tauranga. We hope the latter will be strong enough shortly to form a new Lodge. All the older established Drawing-room Groups have successfully extended the knowledge of Theosophy to a very wide range of people throughout the year. Copies of "How to form and operate Drawing-room Lodges" are available free of charge from Section Headquarters.

Tape Records.—Many of the Lodges have now purchased machines and a considerable library of 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ and 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches per second International tapes on 1,200 feet spools has been established. All Mr. Hodson's public lectures and most of his study class talks have been recorded. We have also received by courtesy of Lodges and members of the American Section many of Mr. Hodson's lectures in America, a series of eight 12-minute radio broadcasts given from Los Angeles, California, with another eighteen to come shortly. A hundred ordinary long-playing gramophone records, 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ speed, of his inspiring talk "From Man to Superman" have been made for us in America, and will be

available shortly at about £1 each. We also hope to receive within the next few weeks two talkie colour films, and one in black and white of his full length lectures. These could no doubt be copied and made available. We have added to our tape library some splendid recordings of our International President, many of the English leaders, and the tapes procurable from other parts of the world. These are available to all Sections and Lodges at the wholesale cost of the tape and postage; namely £2 each post free. Copies in both 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ and 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches per second are available.

Theosophy in New Zealand.—The modern and colourful presentation of the Section journal has found a most encouraging response both in our own country and many other parts of the world. Our Editor, Mrs. Roma Dunningham, invites members of the Society in all countries to send in helpful information and news to increase the interest and helpfulness of our magazine. The circulation has again increased this year.

Correspondence Courses.—Our National Lecturer, Mr. Frank Goodey, very generously and assiduously prepared a Correspondence Course consisting of 26 fortnightly lessons. Each of these has been supplemented by a page of Meditation by Bishop Banks. These are still available at the cost of printing and postage, namely 30/- for the entire course, from Section Headquarters, 10 Belvedere Street, Epsom, Auckland. We are glad to report that these have met with a wide response in New Zealand and overseas, have been translated into several other languages and broadcast overseas.

The School of the Wisdom.—Mrs. Dulcie Mason, wife of the Hon. H. G. R. Mason, M.P., Q.C., late Minister of Education and Justice, and Miss N. M. J. Finlayson represented our Section at the School of the Wisdom at Adyar.

Funds for Adyar.—We have been privileged to send another £100 to Adyar this year for a valued member, £55-15-11 for the Adyar Day Fund, £22-8-6 for the A. B. C. Fund, £29-4-6 for the Raja Commemorative Fund, and £28-16-0 is going forward for the Olcott Harijan Schools.

Easter Summer School.—A record attendance which overflowed the Orewa Hotel, its annexes, and four other houses, enjoyed the camp, with Mrs. E. Marion Lavender, M.A., L.L.A. (Hons.), as guest speaker, and Miss Sandra Chase as leader of the morning reflections. Miss Mary Graham arrived back in time to share with us the magic of India.

Theosophical Order of Service.—Acting under the instruction of the last Theosophical Society Convention, the Theosophical Order of Service has carried out extensive and most helpful Youth Surveys under the direction of its capable National Secretary, Mr. Lewis Grant, M.Com., F.R.A.N.N.Z. Mr. Grant has also toured the North Island of New Zealand lecturing for both the T.S. and the T.O.S. The National Executive has been strengthened by the help of Mrs. Jean Cole-Baker.

League for World Womanhood.—Owing to the increased demand for Mr. Hodson's booklet dealing with this important matter and entitled *The Spiritual Significance of Motherhood*, a second edition was printed and is now over two-thirds sold out. Limited supplies are still available for 20/- a dozen post free from Section Headquarters. It is also available in Spanish.

Vasanta Garden School.—The Theosophical Educational Trust Board has continued to maintain Theosophy's great contribution in the educational field. Miss Bertha Darroch is again helping the school. As our Principals are nearing retiring age, we understand that the Board would welcome information as to the availability of a future Principal, and possibly extra teaching staff. A letter to

Mr. J. G. Patterson, President of the Board, Vasanta Garden School, 72 Margot Street, Epsom, Auckland, S.E.3. would bring the fullest possible information.

Section Funds.—A gift of £2,000, with a similar sum to follow, has kindly been made by an anonymous donor for the purchase of a property which will be available for the Society's purposes when the donor no longer needs the same.

Diamond Jubilee Convention.—Wellington Lodge, which will be host for the forthcoming Diamond Jubilee Convention and celebrations, has already engaged three hostels to accommodate the many members who have already sent in their bookings. A special programme has been arranged and our guest speakers will include Mr. Geoffrey Hodson, Miss Helen Zahara, National Lecturer for Australia, and Mrs. E. Marion Lavender, M.A., L.L.A. (Hons.). Miss Zahara has kindly agreed to do a lecturing tour of all Lodges early in 1957. Overseas members are coming from Sydney and Melbourne if bookings are available, and from Norfolk Island. All will be most cordially welcomed.

Conclusion.—Our keynote for the year has been "Theosophy, the Spiritual Science the World is Seeking," and our theme "None must ever Wait or call for Light in Vain". Our members have given generously in order to popularize a knowledge of Theosophy. It is most encouraging to see a broadening of outlook, a newer light and understanding, a greater humaneness, and a fuller acknowledgment of the fact of Brotherhood. It is inspiring to see in our members the inner joy and sense of fulfilment which comes from dedication to the Service of the Masters, helping Them in some small measure in Their glorious task of elevating all to the state of perfected manhood. May the Blessing of the Lord of Love

inspire us, and the Strength of the Inner Founders of our Society empower us to

joyfully serve humanity throughout the coming year.

BRIAN DUNNINGHAM,
General Secretary.

NETHERLANDS

General Work.—On the whole our Section continued its activities in a satisfactory way. Nearly all our 37 Lodges were active, organizing lectures and study classes for members and enquirers, and lectures for the public in general. Moreover, it is becoming customary that several Lodges in the northern, as well as in the southern and middle parts of the country are joining in meetings once a year at suitable places. Such meetings, usually attended by the General Secretary, prove a great success.

Two meetings of the National Council were held. During the first meeting a revision of the Rules and Regulations was decided upon. In the second meeting it was resolved to participate in the funds necessary for the building of a second home for young Theosophists (also to be used by elder members when free) in St. Michael's Centre. This last decision will, we hope, strengthen the contact between the Section and the Huizen Centre.

On two occasions we were enabled to broadcast Theosophical news and ideas: first at the celebration of the 80th Anniversary of the Society in November last; and second, when one of the broadcasting companies invited the General Secretary to be interviewed on Theosophy. The public interest in Theosophy appears to be definitely increasing. This was also shown by the requests of two important Dutch newspapers asking for an exposition on Theosophy.

At the April meeting of the National Council Mr. B. Wouters was re-elected General Secretary for three years.

Membership.—There is a small increase of 8 members, the total number amounting to 1,641.

Convention.—The annual Convention was combined with a summer school, five days altogether. It was a new experiment and it proved a splendid success. It was held in beautiful surroundings near the town of Amersfoort, in the middle of Holland. The number of participants was not large (50-70 for the summer school and 150 for Convention day), but there was an excellent happy spirit and that makes all the difference.

Publicity.—Our Publishing Department continues its activities. Three small books of the new series have been published and we are now preparing the editing and reprinting of some larger books in Dutch translations which are needed most.

Theosophical Research Centre.—Four groups of this Centre are continuing its studies. The Centre has some financial support vested in a new Foundation, named "Proklos" (the name of a well-known leader of the Platonic Academy at Athens in the 5th century). This Foundation seeks to realize a rather ambitious plan for the future: to found and keep up an Academy and to establish a chair at one of the existing Universities in Holland.

B. WOUTERS,
General Secretary.

FRANCE

No Report

ITALY

This is the last report I send you as General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Italy, for I retired last month.

Doctor Giuseppe Filipponio, President of Lodge Loto Bianco in Rome, whom I proposed as my successor, was appointed General Secretary at the 42nd Italian Theosophical Congress which took place in Rome from the 1st to 3rd September 1956.

The following are the statistics of the Italian Section for the year:

Regular Lodges, 29, with total members	.. 1,014
Independent Members	.. 66
Total membership	.. 1,080

The Section is in regress of 2 Lodges, but effectively of one only, as the two Lodges of Novara have been united in one. We have kept our positions and have realized some progress during this year as we have registered 58 new admissions.

Unfortunately during the past months we have lost Ing. Mario Ingaramo, V.G.S. and President of Lodge H. P. B. of Turin; Ing. Aldo Godenigo, President of Lodge Giuliana of Trieste; Gaspare Boris, a pioneer of the Theosophical movement in Turin. The Italian Section in spite of the death of these members, and of many external difficulties, has realized its ancient aspirations by coming into possession of a home in Rome; this is now the General Theosophical Italian Headquarters.

I leave my charge in great satisfaction because I have been able to help the Theosophical Society in Italy, directing it these 18 years, and am satisfied with the qualities of my successor who is a man full of devotion and courage.

I consider myself in active reserve, for I have been named honorary General Secretary *ad vitam* by the Congress, therefore I feel myself always spiritually tied to the International Headquarters of Adyar.

DR. GIUSEPPE GASCO,
General Secretary.

GERMANY

During the year under report the Lodge work in all parts of our country has been continued as in previous years. Regular meetings every week or fortnight have been held in all groups with study of Theosophical literature, discussions and lectures. There have also been some public lectures and in some places introductory courses for applicants. The re-

sult of this work has been a steadily increasing membership and the formation of two new Centres in Kassel and Dortmund. We have had 32 new admissions and on the other hand 12 outgoing members, which means an increase altogether of 20 members, bringing the total to 492.

I myself have been able to visit most of the Lodges in the western part of

Germany and I have lectured nearly every fortnight in Hamburg.

There was not the usual summer school this year because we had the European Congress in Baden near Vienna in Austria and 38 members of the German Section were able to be present.

In springtime there was, as in other years, a meeting of the Regional Committee of the German-speaking Sections in Basle, Switzerland, with Mr. van Dissel in the chair, which I was able to attend, and we discussed there the possibilities and the programme for the Congress in Baden.

In Baden there were gatherings of the Curatorium of the Adyar-Verlag in Graz. It has been decided that the German

periodical *Adyar* should be published in Germany in future, instead of by the Adyar-Verlag, beginning with the year 1957, in order to make it possible to issue this paper regularly four times a year. It was further decided that the Adyar-Verlag should be financially underwritten in case of its having a deficit, by the three interested Sections and the European Federation, to enable it to publish new Theosophical books, the first being *The Ancient Wisdom* by Dr. A. Besant, with the private help of some members in Switzerland and Germany. Altogether it was a successful Congress, and we had a very successful year of work in our country.

MARTIN BOYKEN,
General Secretary.

CUBA

We are pleased to give a report of our Section for the twelve months ending September 30th 1956; however, we have adjusted same to also cover the period from October 1st 1952, up to September 30th 1956, in view of the fact that no reports were sent to you since 1952.

On account of the abnormal conditions in our Section, and due to the fact that our administrative centre was divided between the cities of Havana and Cabaiguán, no reports have been sent to you since 1952.

From October 1st 1952, to September 30th 1956, ten Lodges were dissolved and there has been a decrease of 65 members in the total membership, which is not very much if we take into consideration

the number of Lodges dissolved. Notwithstanding the fact that we had a serious decrease in connection with the number of our Lodges (mainly because the majority of them decided to follow Mr. J. Krishnamurti's teachings entirely) we continue doing our best in order to restore the situation and to find the best means of popularizing Theosophy in Cuba.

During March 1956, we received the visit of Brother Geoffrey Hodson, who gave several lectures and talks at Havana and Camagüey cities, and this undoubtedly is helping us a great deal to strengthen the Theosophical work in our country.

ARMANDO ALFONSO LEDÓN,
General Secretary.

HUNGARY

No Report

FINLAND

I have the honor to send the following Report of the Theosophical Society in Finland, covering the year from the 1st of October 1955 to the 30th of September 1956.

The work of the Finnish Section has been carried out on similar lines as before. Although all 22 Lodges hold their meetings regularly, some every week, others once a fortnight or once a month, I regret to say that, especially in rural areas, activities are weakening. The work is resting upon a few faithful members. Some of them have grown old and have not the same strength to do the work as they used to have, and some have left the physical plane. Although some new members are joining us, there is a great need of active members in the country.

In Helsinki we are not so few—more than half of the members live in Helsinki—and the seven Lodges meet regularly every week. Of public activities may be mentioned the Question and Answer meetings in the autumn season and Sunday lectures in the spring. The audience on these occasions has been fairly large, 40–100 persons, among them many outsiders.

On all festival days a public celebration has been arranged. A special occasion was the celebration of the 80th Anniversary of the Theosophical Society with a fine address of the day by Mr. Yrjö Kalinen. At this meeting the Lodge Room was packed full. The biggest newspapers in Helsinki published an article on November 17th giving a general survey of the history of the Theosophical Society.

Mr. Axel von Fielitz-Coniar visited Finland in November. He delivered two lectures in Helsinki and one in Turku.

The Annual Convention took place at Easter time. It was a happy and enthusiastic gathering, though I am sorry to

say that this time there were not as many delegates as we have been accustomed to. At meetings the audience was about 100 and at the public matinee about 200. The address was given by Mr. Atte Pohjanmaa.

The Round Table and the Lotus Circle have carried on their work as formerly. We have also in Helsinki a Healing Group which meets every fortnight.

A special feature in the activities of the spring season was the "winter-gathering" arranged by young people. At that time an independent group was founded called "Young Finnish Theosophists and Their Friends". During the spring they arranged two successful concerts and gave two lectures intended for youth. They hold their meetings once a fortnight.

At our new summer home at Kreivilä a summer school was arranged at the beginning of July. The number of the students was forty. The lectures dealt with everyday problems of current interest, both theoretical and practical.

Simultaneously with the summer school the young people arranged at Kreivilä a camp with ten young participants.

The sectional magazine *Teosofi* has been published once a month. It has continued to act as a valuable link between the members and those interested in Theosophy and also as a means of propaganda. The number of subscribers is about 700.

The membership stands now at 538. The number of new members during the year was 20; 11 members have passed over and 20 withdrawn.

Two of our members were present at the summer school in Denmark, three members visited Huizen during the summer, and we were five who were happy enough to take part in the European Congress at Baden.

This autumn the working season commenced with a gathering in Helsinki in the middle of September, so now the work is running with full force.

People in Finland are at present struggling with economic difficulties. Their whole existence has become uncertain and complicated. There are in these sur-

roundings a few citizens to whom the simplicity of Life and the inner Peace has been opened in Theosophy. With that Light they try to serve their neighbours to the best of their ability.

SIGNE ROSVALL,
General Secretary.

RUSSIA

Section Dissolved

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

No Report

SOUTHERN AFRICA

Lodge Golden Jubilees.—The celebrations of the Golden Jubilees of Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban Lodges are now things of the past and we have entered a new period of work and activity. Looking back over the year's work accomplished by the Section in Southern Africa one is conscious of steady progress.

Committee.—During the past year the Executive Committee has been meeting regularly here in Cape Town. Mrs. Stainton, our Secretary, was confined to bed through illness for about a month but we are glad to report that she is now quite well again. We congratulate our Treasurer, Miss L. Cole, on her marriage to Mr. Murphy and wish them much happiness.

Lodges and Centres.—During July I made a lecture tour of the Rhodesian Lodges—Salisbury, Mazoe and Bulawayo—and also held meetings at the Gwelo Cen-

tre and another at Que Que. There were good attendances at all these places and much enthusiasm. We also arranged a meeting at Stellenbosch with very promising results and are planning to have another gathering there in the new year.

In September the George Lodge arranged a gathering for members of some of the Coast Lodges who cannot always get away to Convention, especially when it is held up in the Transvaal. This was a great success and we are hoping to hold the function at Port Elizabeth next year. We now have thirteen Lodges and two Centres.

Clara Codd Pension Fund.—This fund is still carrying on under difficulties and contributions are always welcome.

Membership.—During the year we gained 84 members and lost 74, making a net gain of 10. Our total membership now stands at 665.

Recorders.—I feel that Southern Africa is probably in advance of all other Sections in the use of recorders. All our big Lodges have recorders of their own and many of the small Lodges are able to borrow them when needed. Mr. Gordon Bond has built up a useful library of recorded lectures, a number of them imported, and it is becoming a regular practice to include in our programmes recorded lectures by prominent speakers such as Mr. Geoffrey Hodson and Miss Clara Codd. We have also made several good recordings of other lecturers.

The Link.—I am pleased to report that this magazine has come out regularly and

has been much appreciated, and our thanks are due to our Editor, Mrs. P. Mitford-Barberton, for all her hard work.

A. B. C. Fund.—A donation of £50 has been received and has been forwarded to Adyar.

On the whole the work of the Theosophical Society in Southern Africa is progressing well and as long as we keep the spirit of Brotherhood and Service animating our Society we know that the Masters' blessing will be on us and on our work.

I. MITFORD-BARBERTON,
General Secretary.

SCOTLAND

During the year work throughout the Section went on quietly and steadily and the usual activities were carried on by the various Lodges. Public lectures, study groups and members meetings were held regularly.

Our visiting lecturers were few: Miss Graham from New Zealand, Mr. R. Hartley from Leeds, and Professor Ernest Wood from U.S.A., his first visit to Scotland for 26 years. It was a real pleasure for the older members to renew the acquaintance, and to the newer members a real stimulation. His lectures and his presence were very much appreciated wherever he went; we were also very happy to greet Mrs. Wood who accompanied him.

The "Red Letter Days" were all observed in the customary manner and offerings made to the usual funds, Adyar Day, White Lotus Day, A. B. C. Fund and also the President's Fund.

The work for the Latvian refugees and also the Refugees Camps, has been carried on without interruption, and money, food and clothing are being provided generously by the members and distributed to those in need.

The Besant Memorial Library at Headquarters carries on its very useful work and provides a means of spreading our teachings among both members and the public.

The annual Convention of the Section was held in Glasgow this year and we were happy to have as our Guest of Honour Mr. Rohit Mehta, General Secretary of the Indian Section of the Theosophical Society. It was a happy, successful and inspiring occasion, and "Our Guest," his lectures and his talks were much appreciated by all who had the pleasure and privilege of hearing him. The hope was expressed that he might be able to visit us again before long.

During the year the General Secretary represented the Section at the English Convention, the British Isles and Ireland Regional summer school at Swanwick, and also the European Federation Congress at Baden; a wonderful experience.

Our membership at present is 238.

JEAN ALLAN,
General Secretary.

SWITZERLAND

Membership.—Our Section has become very small. My last report showed 259 members and today we have only 225, in 12 Lodges and 5 Centres. The number of lapsings is rather large, but the loss of so many inactive members means at the same time an increase of the average quality. The details are as follows: One transfer to England and at the same time one from the Netherlands; 6 members died, 15 resigned and 24 names have been crossed from the list, after advising them of this fact. Eleven members entered the Society. That means a decrease of 24 members.

Activity.—The activity of the remaining members is very good, and we can say that a new and fresh impulse goes through the Section. Some Lodges follow the theme of the European Congress of 1956 in their study and are very alive.

The activities for children and young people are as before, the Round Table at Basle having 14 children. Some young members at Geneva are trying to form a Youth Group.

The Annual Convention.—This took place in our National Headquarters at Geneva. It was once again a beautiful occasion to meet each other and to vivify the contact between the Lodges and the Section.

Public Work.—This continues to be done with the help of our members. We have the feeling that the relationship between Theosophy and the world becomes stronger; perhaps we are applying new methods of approach.

The Order of Service.—This Order is much more active than previously. The

Camp of Kolokynthou and our brothers in Yugoslavia appreciate very much the help given.

Magazines.—*Adyar*, written in German, is always very interesting; *Clarté*, the magazine for French-speaking members, has changed its appearance but its contents are as interesting as ever.

Summer Schools.—The members who participated in Louette St. Pierre and Pichl were very happy there. The General Secretary was at Pichl.

Regional Committee.—The German-speaking Regional Committee meeting held at Basle in April was attended by many delegates from different countries and the work done was very important. I feel that this Regional work should never be missed.

The General Secretary was at Huizen during Christmas and took part in the French-speaking Regional Committee discussions at Brussels.

European Congress.—The Congress was perhaps the most important event this year. The General Secretary participated in it, together with 30 other members of our Section. We had the feeling that the inner keynote of all the meetings was love and understanding and we believe that it was the presence of our beloved President which gave this note. The experiment of Discussion Groups was a full success; I took one of them in German and I was very glad to see how important such team work will be in the coming New Age.

CLAIRE WYSS,

General Secretary.

BELGIUM

Membership.—Last year we were 338 members. Our present number is 359, making a gain of 21.

Lodges.—The number is the same as last year: 13, and 60 unattached members.

Lectures.—At our public lectures in Brussels, Liège, Antwerp and Ghent, the attendance varies between 60 and 100 people each week.

Meditation Course.—A monthly meditation course has been organized since October 1955 on the lines of the Group Discussions held during the European Congress at Baden in September 1956. A course on Theosophy will be organized in 1956-57 following the same principles.

Youth Group.—Lodge Dharma (Young Theosophists' Group) is very active; it has organized several Art sessions and T.S. commemorations, a Christmas Party for orphan children, several trips and Camps in conjunction with the Young Theosophists of France, and has given help for the Kolokynthou Camp of Refugees.

Summer School at Louette St. Pierre.—This was organized by Mlle. Serge Brisy and was a great success; people attended from Holland, Switzerland, Luxembourg, France and Belgium. We were specially happy to welcome Mrs. van Dissel, Bishop Vreede and Prof. Selleger from Holland and Mr. Phan-Chon-Ton from France.

Work in the Lodges.—Subjects taken in the Lodges were "Art and Theosophy,"

"Science and Theosophy," and "Personality and Theosophy". Lodge Lumière (Het Licht) has been specially charged to conduct a course on Theosophy, and a lecturers' course.

Relations with other Sections.—Several lecturers have visited us from Holland, Switzerland and France, notably at the meeting of the French-speaking Regional Committee in Brussels. As General Secretary I gave, as in other years, a series of lectures in Paris and throughout France, and this has increased the cordial relations between the French and Belgian Sections.

The Regional Review.—Belgium enthusiastically approves the transformation of *Clarté* into a "Collection of Monographs," which thus avoids overlapping with the very good and long-established review *Lotus Bleu*, founded by H. P. Blavatsky.

European Congress at Baden.—This was held in September 1956. There were 17 Belgian participants and our General Secretary presided over one of the two French-speaking Discussion Groups.

Art Activities.—At every public session there is some kind of artistic introduction, and several performances of music and poetry have been organized with great success.

Briefly, the atmosphere in our Section is at the present time vital and brotherly.

TH. CHAPELLIER,

General Secretary.

INDONESIA

Membership.—There are 850 members of the Indonesian Section of the Theosophical Society. Two new Lodges were formed during the year, Saptorenggo at

Kudus, and Muntilan. Two Lodges were dissolved—Kediri and Malang, the latter uniting with Lodge Timur. This brings the number of Lodges to 22. New

members admitted were 146, and outgoing members 46, giving an increase of 100 for the year under review.

Activities of the Section.—The Section held its annual meeting at Semarang (Mid-Java) from 30th March to 2nd April 1956.

The Semarang Lodges issued, on November 17th 1955, a special magazine in commemoration of the eightieth Anniversary of the Theosophical Society.

The propaganda committee of the Section was active in spreading Theosophy in several Lodges in East, Mid and West-Java.

The Lodges worked actively by holding meetings for members.

A Great Event.—From April 30th till June 30th 1956, the Section had the honour to receive Mr. M. Subramaniam, member of the Headquarters of the Theosophical Society, Adyar. During that time he visited 13 Lodges of the Section, giving public lectures, talks to Lodge members,

Young Theosophists, etc. Our members heard many valuable things from Bro. Subramaniam, which strengthened us in our Theosophical life and work for the Lodges. We are all very grateful to him for his willingness to stay in our midst for two months.

Some resolutions waiting for execution.—The annual meeting at Semarang in April 1956 took some resolutions that have been waiting for execution till now, viz:

- (a) The plan to translate and print some Theosophical books.
- (b) To organize radio-talks.
- (c) To revive the T.D.O. activities.
- (d) To form a fund for Theosophical guests from abroad.
- (e) To organize district meetings.

The next annual meeting.—The next annual meeting will be held at Bandung (West-Java) during Easter 1957.

SOEMARDJO,

General Secretary.

BURMA

During the year under report the number of active Lodges remained at 4. There was a slight gain in membership at the Olcott Lodge, Rangoon.

The Section continued to lose a few more active members by their departure to India, and among them may be mentioned our one-time General Secretary, Mr. C. R. N. Swamy, and Mr. Ganga Prasad.

The year is marked with an increased activity all round and, what is more gratifying, an increasing interest taken by all concerned in these activities. Sunday morning gatherings in Rangoon were better attended as the result of the talks being more varied. U Kyaw Hla con-

tinued to do good work, especially for humanitarianism, in Mandalay.

The Section derived much benefit from the visits in June and August respectively of U Maung Maung Ji, an old member and lecturer, from London, and of Mr. M. Subramaniam, our well-known Headquarters worker and lecturer, in the course of his tours in South-East Asia. These two distinguished visitors from various platforms kept public attention focussed on a number of immediate spiritual problems.

Extensive work in the cause of vegetarianism and humanitarian work was done during the year, advantage being taken of the last session of the Sixth

Buddhist Council, when there was a mammoth gathering of people in Rangoon from all parts of the country, as well as from abroad.

The Headquarters Library was shaped into better order in the hands of Bro. Rama. It also gained quite a number of new books, purchased locally, on subjects of current interest.

Difficulties in getting exchange permits to obtain fresh stock of books from Adyar kept down the work of the Book Depot to almost nil.

It is regrettable to report that owing to some untoward circumstances the Burma Educational Trust School, which is under the management of the Section, had to abolish its top class, Class VII, when it re-opened in May.

The Lotus Lodge premises in Mandalay still remain occupied by a member, and no amount of entreaties have succeeded in inducing him to vacate them.

"Theosophy in Burmese" has been made the principal aim of the Sectional work of the future. The idea was started on the return of the delegates from the Adyar Convention in January last. Some of the members are undertaking the translation of selected Theosophical Manuals, and one on "Karma" has been completed. It is hoped that the coming year will see a few more completed and published in Burmese.

PO LAT,

General Secretary.

AUSTRIA

This year of activity in our Section was crowned by the Congress of the Theosophical Society in Europe, in Baden near Vienna, from September 8th to 15th.

Owing to some circumstances in Switzerland, where the Congress was expected to be held, Baden was finally chosen for the Congress. But already in February it was necessary to negotiate with the authorities of the town of Baden and with the management of seven hotels with regard to arranging accommodation there.

The mayor of the town agreed for the Congress to use the great "Kurhaus" of the town administration for a week; this wonderful building with large halls and rooms had just been renovated and presented a dignified appearance.

The keynote of the Congress was: "The Rise of a New Cycle". It was a very inspiring experience to hear our beloved President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, deliver the

preparatory ideas on this topic, as well as his opening talk for members and his public lecture. Later, lecturers in German, English and French, spoke in a similar manner to hearers of their own national language: Herr Fritz Schleifer about "Die Theosophie und ihre Glaubensmeinungen" to invited German-speaking guests; Mrs. Alice Berry on "Looking Forward," and Mlle. Pascale Mallet about "A l'Aube d'un Nouveau Cycle". In addition, a new experiment for Congress work was tried by the leaders of the Theosophical Society in Europe, that is, the introduction of so-called "Concurrent Discussion Group Work" in German, English and French.

The lectures of the President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, were translated, sentence by sentence, into German and at the same time they were recorded for further translations in other languages,

Before the closing of the Congress, the different leaders of the nine Discussion Groups and their three regional leaders briefly reported the very interesting results of this co-operating group work. The impression of the concurrent Discussion Groups on people was a very favourable one, because every member of such a Group had the satisfying feeling of having been active in finding new points of view in Theosophical activity.

At the social evening, two well-known musicians from Lübeck, Frau Hilda Schlütter-Suden, a violinist, and Herr Reinhold Arndt, a pianist, gave recitals of classical music. Afterwards many visitors met each other in the newly opened coffee-hall of the "Kurhaus".

In the middle of the week excursions were arranged for visitors from abroad. Three autobuses went to the "Semmer-

ing" districts of the near Austrian Alps and two other buses to Vienna and the "Wienerwald". The Congress ended very happily and was a great success. Three hundred and twenty-six visitors of twenty nations were present. Everyone left Baden very satisfied and deeply impressed by the wonderful atmosphere of the Congress.

The Section has 13 Lodges, 7 in Vienna, 4 in Graz and one each in Bruck a.d.Mur and in Linz a.d.Donau. Public lectures were delivered fortnightly in Vienna and Graz, in addition to the usual Lodge work.

This year 17 members have joined the Society, 7 resigned, 7 died and 5 were transferred to other Sections. The number of members under report is 310, a decrease of 2.

FRITZ SCHLEIFER,
General Secretary.

NORWAY

The work is going on as best it can in these very difficult times. Effort has been made, especially through our sectional magazine, to make the various Lodges more Theosophically minded. The importance of feeling the tie with the Section administration and through it with the Adyar Headquarters and the whole international movement has been stressed.

In Oslo a few public lectures have been held during the autumn and drew fairly good audiences. Bishop Otto Viking visited us in October and gave great stimulus to the work. Mr. Axel von Fielitz-Coniar paid a short visit to Oslo in November and gave a public lecture which was highly appreciated. The General Secretary visited Trondheim in May and found the Lodge very active and in good working order.

Our Magazine, *Norsk Teosofisk Tidsskrift*, continues to be published with six issues a year. It aims at keeping the members in touch with our great movement, both with regard to news items and recent articles from various Theosophical publications.

Our Convention this year was a happy event, and special greetings from Adyar and from a number of General Secretaries, including that of the General Secretary of the European Federation, gave a touch to the proceedings which was greatly appreciated. Short lectures were delivered by members, and these have been published in our magazine.

Membership is slowly increasing, but the speed is much too slow. However, as conditions are at present in this Section we are grateful that the work is progressing

at all. There is a marked shortage of active and trained workers, and we do not seem to be able to get into real contact with the youth of Norway. However, we carry on, relying on the indwelling power of the movement and of Theosophy, hoping that the inner life of each member will be strengthened so that a deeper dedication and a greater enthusiasm may give our endeavors the needed strength.

Our thoughts naturally go to Adyar and its devoted workers, feeling deep gratitude for all they do for us. We bow in reverence to our beloved President, thanking him from the depths of our hearts for his selfless and inspiring work for the great Cause.

ERLING HAVREVOLD,
General Secretary.

EGYPT

No Report

DENMARK

During the year public lectures have been given at Aarhus and Copenhagen. At Copenhagen the difficulties as to Lodge rooms have increased.

In the autumn the Danish Section had a visit from Mr. von Fielitz-Coniar from Munich who visited all Lodges in the province and also gave public lectures. At Copenhagen he lectured to members gathered from the various Lodges there. His visit was very much appreciated.

The annual Convention, held at Copenhagen on April 28th and 29th, was harmonious. The number of members of the Section was 343. Mrs. Olive Stevenson-Howell, from London, was our guest and at the Convention she gave two beautiful and inspiring lectures. During her stay in Denmark she also gave lectures at Aarhus and Aalborg Lodges.

I was re-elected as General Secretary for two years.

This year there have been summer schools both at Besantgaarden, the home of Anna and Otto Viking, and at Gammel Praestegaard. The summer school at Gammel Praestegaard was led by Mr. John Coats, Mr. von Fielitz-Coniar being also our guest. The motto of the summer school was: Evolution, its goal and the means thereto".

It is our plan also to have a summer school at Gammel Praestegaard in 1957. This place has now been bought by Mrs. Birgitte Valvanne, Mr. Hugo Valvanne and Mr. Jorgen Winde. The Danish Section is very grateful to these dear friends, who have made it possible to have Gammel Praestegaard as a place for Theosophical summer schools.

J. H. MÖLLER,
General Secretary.

IRELAND

During the year we have had the privilege of welcoming the following visitors from overseas: Miss Mary Graham, New Zealand; Mr. John Coats and Mrs. Walker, England; Miss Helen Zahara and Mr. Rohit Mehta, India; also Dr. Hugh Shearman, Northern Ireland. Other speakers during the year were: Mrs. Alice Law, Mr. L. R. Ogden, Mrs. Dawson, Mrs. Hornidge, Mrs. Gourlay, Mrs. Allen, Miss D. Emerson, Mr. R. Duck. On the lighter side we have had several evenings of a social nature. Mrs. Maxwell Henry has shown us her slides in color covering four continents. We had a delightful evening entitled "An Evening with A. E. and Yeats" carried out by two young people, Merial Thomas and Julian Dawson at the piano. The attendance at public meetings of the Dublin Lodges has been very good. Cork Lodge has had a difficult time this year because of the illness of most of its members, but they managed to carry on with their study and a public meeting was held when Mr. Coats visited the Lodge last autumn.

On the study side we have held a monthly members' meeting and studied such subjects as "What can the Theosophical Society do in the World Today?" "Our Three Objects," "Self-Knowledge" and "The Evidence of Law and Order in the Universe". The advanced study group under Mr. Pielou meets twice monthly, the subject being "Man's Invisible Bodies and the Planes related thereto". This has been most interesting and I think those who have attended have benefited greatly.

In the Library Mrs. Gregg and her helpers have done good work. We have now 1,629 books; 114 were borrowed during the year. The Library is open two days a week as well as after all meetings.

Very good work has been done in aid

of the European Refugee Fund. At various time cheques to the amount of over £20, as well as clothing have been sent. We have also contributed £5 to the Swiss Section for the Yugoslavian members.

At the annual business meeting of the Dublin Lodges held on January 26th I was nominated as General Secretary and Mr. Pielou as National Treasurer for the coming year.

Theosophy in Ireland, our National magazine, continues with three issues yearly. Printing and postage have again gone up and it is hard to see how we can continue at such a heavy loss. The magazine exists mostly upon donations as the subscription is so low. It is a very heavy liability on such a small Section.

In conclusion I would like to say that, although the number of our members remains small, we are an active group and the work is being done. As our President Mr. Sri Ram said: "Though we are small in number, we are rich in hope. Along with that hope, we have the consciousness that no effort is lost, and every thought, word and act of ours which conveys the spirit of Theosophy, is a step in the creation of happier and more beautiful conditions for the whole of humanity to live in." I feel that we should keep these words in our minds, for what really matters is that each member should have the urge and feel a great enthusiasm in carrying on this work. We have a beautiful home for our Headquarters and it lies with each member to see that we make it a centre of peace, harmony and friendliness, a place where a nucleus of Universal Brotherhood may be nourished and grow.

EVELYN O. HORNIDGE,
General Secretary.

MEXICO

The Lodges of Mexico City were fortunate this year in having three of our leaders visiting us: Miss Helen V. Zahara, from December 28th 1955 to January 6th 1956, delivering three public lectures; Mr. Geoffrey Hodson from 8th to 17th February 1956, delivering also three public lectures at the Amphitheatre of the National University; and the President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, from August 14th to 16th, when his long Latin-American tour ended. He also lectured at the University. With members of the five Metropolitan Lodges, the three visitors held meetings at Headquarters, their instructions, answers and slides serving to refresh our Theosophy and strengthen our ties.

Our 1955 Convention was held in Mexico City from 28th to 30th December 1955, Miss Zahara being the lecturer. Our General Secretary was re-elected for the ensuing year; several delegates accompanied Miss Zahara to visit the famous Teotihuacan Pyramids.

Early in the year two new Lodges were formed, while two dormant Lodges, already devitalized, were transformed into centres of study. So our active Lodges as in last year, amount to 26 plus 8 Centres, the total number of active members being 537.

At Headquarters, meetings are held every day of the year except Sundays. However, every other Sunday, the beautiful Ritual of the Mystic Star is performed. One of our Lodges, at Tijuana, B.C., is doing good work among boys and girls whose social and recreative activities are blessed when Theosophy is made known to them.

Eight thousand, two hundred permanent readers receive the free service of *Dharma* every other month. This small review is teaching them about the pre-history of the world, according to *The Secret Doctrine*. Our Sectional bulletin is sent "with compliments" to 160 Spanish-speaking Lodges all through Central and South America. Twenty-one thousand propaganda leaflets were printed in order to help Lodges and members share in such a service.

Sister Aura Chagoya, full of enthusiasm, continues as Head of the rural school of our small Theosophical Colony at Teoloyucan; the number of children receiving free primary instruction amounts to 68. Ideals of brotherhood are infused in their daily prayers and choral chants.

Our Headquarters building was acquired in November 1929, its cost of \$35,000 to be paid \$500 cash and the balance in monthly instalments. In February 1949 our last payment settled the mortgage and the house was then free of debt, two-thirds of its price having been paid by itself out of small rents from four Lodge rooms (Theosophical and Symbolical). This property is situated at the very core of Mexico City and its value has in the meantime risen to more than 60 per cent. The house is now being demolished to be adapted as complete Headquarters for the Theosophical movement in Mexico, with its own Press, Library, Lodge rooms and Lecture-hall-theatre seating 400 persons. The third floor will afford modern chambers for distinguished visitors.

ADOLFO DE LA PEÑA GIL,
General Secretary.

CANADA

The Theosophical Society in Canada has had a year of steady growth and progress and has shown more vitality than in many years past. Two new Lodges have been inaugurated, one in North Vancouver and the other in Hamilton. Also the Lodge in Victoria, for many years dormant, has been re-opened and is filling a long-felt want. Our membership is now 394, an increase of 12. There is a list of 26 inactive members, but this promises to be reduced in the near future, many members being slow in remembering to pay their dues. One member was transferred to another Section, and eight members have died.

During the year we had a series of lectures by Professor Ernest Wood, and Mr. Geoffrey Hodson paid us a visit and during his four days stay had near capacity audiences. Mr. Iverson Harris, Mr. and Mrs. Norman Pearson and Miss Helen Zahara were other very welcome visitors, each one giving one or more lectures. Much interest was aroused amongst the public by "The Bridey Murphy Case," and to meet the situation many of our lecturers, both visiting and local, took advantage of this unusual interest in reincarnation and assuaged to a large extent the curiosity and otherwise of those who came for enlightenment. Many pamphlets were distributed and the "Case," stirring popular imagination, helped in a large degree to put Theosophy on the map.

An election of officers took place this year. The General Secretary was returned

by acclamation; the members with one exception remain the same as last year. The magazine continues to give general satisfaction, and there were 20 new subscribers. Toronto Lodge has as usual been very active; its bazaar for necessary funds exceeded all expectations. The Library loaned over 2,200 books, and the number of visitors exceeded 700, not including the many who came in before the lectures. A large number of books were presented to the new Victoria Lodge. Our Traveling Library is a very active concern and over 700 books were mailed to outlying districts.

The other Lodges are without exception decidedly active also, and are requesting pamphlets for distribution. These will be available in the immediate future when the new ones in the press are ready. Animal Day was celebrated with a very special programme, and with it was inaugurated a proposal for urgent efforts on behalf of a Bill of Animal Rights. Messages from the President and Rukmini Devi were read on the occasion.

I feel I can truly say that Theosophy in Canada is on the up-and-up; it may not be spectacular, but nevertheless it is working like yeast in the bread, and eventually the loaf will be baked and found to be good. Slow and steady wins the race, and I think we can await results with the utmost confidence.

E. L. THOMSON,
General Secretary.

 ARGENTINA

The membership of the Theosophical Society in Argentina stands at 1,397 and the number of Lodges is now 57.

Helen V. Zahara.—In October 1955 we received a visit from Miss Helen V. Zahara who came to lecture in our land. Her

presence attracted many people who are interested in our ideals. She was very helpful and attractive; her manner so invested with "latinity" that the people assembled were always interested from the beginning of her speech and congratulated her at the close.

Visit of our President.—More recently we received a visit from our beloved International President, Brother N. Sri Ram, accompanied by Brother Alfredo Puig as translator. They were in our land for 30 days—6th June to 5th July.

After each lecture, Brother Sri Ram was acclaimed by the people who gathered round him. It resembled the old days in India when the people said: "Sadhu, Sadhu," when a wise and holy man came before them. The President lectured to the public and members at Buenos Aires, La Plata, Rosario, Rio Cuarto, San Rafael and Mendoza.

His message of Theosophy—for us in Argentina—was a new presentation of the

Ancient Wisdom, but put in a language that all could understand. His presence everywhere was a surprise for the public, as also for Theosophists. All the time his influence was around us like a blessing.

The matter of the translation and publication of Theosophical books into our vernacular language was discussed with the President.

Press.—Under the editorship of Mr. Nazareno E. Rimini we published this year the first book in Spanish—our President's book *Thoughts for Aspirants*. Also we have printed four pamphlets in Spanish of articles by Geoffrey Hodson, E. L. Gardner, Sandra Chase, Wallace F. MacNaughton and Kardi Riedel.

The Theosophist.—The last number issued in Spanish—named *El Teosofa*—was dedicated to the visit of the President to our country.

ENRIQUE O. GOSSWEILER,
General Secretary.

CHILE

General.—The life of the Section has been normal during this period, the difficulties mentioned in our previous Report having been eliminated. The new Directive has been able to take advantage of the experience of the previous one and we have been able to enter upon a period of reconstruction, the good fruits of which will be apparent in no distant future.

Lodges and Members.—One Lodge has been dissolved, because of insufficiency of members; there are now 9 Lodges, one less than in our previous Report. Nine members resigned, and one died; against this there are twelve new members. There are now 150 members, compared with 148 in our last return.

Lodge Activities.—All have been carrying on internal work and public activities, modestly but effectively. They are engaged in deepening their studies and also in spreading Theosophy. Many people attend the public lectures and show their usual interest, being consistently present, and in larger numbers.

Library Movement.—The Library has promoted individual study by means of existing books which are to be found in the Libraries and in the different Lodges, and this movement has denoted much interest on the part of students. Unfortunately many of the books are now unavailable for they have been allowed to go out of print. There is very little literature in Spanish up to now, especially that of

well-known authors in the Theosophical Society.

Administrative Councils of the Lodges.—The Lodges in the same city have worked together to increase the resources and activities in matters of common necessity and by way of organization of finances, propaganda, etc. These organizations were envisaged at an earlier period, and we were able to reap the harvest on the occasions of the visits of Miss Helen Zahara and Mr. Sri Ram to Chile. Thanks to the functioning of these organizations it was easy to take care of these illustrious visitors and to organize and develop their activities in this Section.

Work of the Section's President.—Apart from his general functions, he took as his personal duty the giving of public talks every Saturday in the year at the Headquarters of the Section in Santiago. He presented a course of fundamental Theosophy, based on the book by Mr. C. Jinarājadāsa, *First Principles of Theosophy*.

Plans for the Future:

1. The application of a minimum Programme of Instruction in all the Lodges.
2. A Course in Public Speaking for training those members who show capacity and ability in the teaching of Theosophy.
3. The organization of central Libraries in the Section, one in Santiago and the other in Valparaiso, and the acquisition of new works on Theosophy in English for such libraries.
4. The provision of available Theosophical literature in the language of the country for the Lodges.
5. The formation of a Library Fund to serve for the public acquisition of Theosophical works.
6. The collection of articles and leaflets already existing in the Sec-

tions, suitable for greater distribution to the public, and the translation of the same in order to develop a systematic and permanent propaganda in the Press and on the Radio.

7. The regularization of international relations, especially with the South American Sections, for Theosophical work throughout the Continent.
8. A campaign to form new Lodges throughout the whole country and to draw new members into the existing Lodges.

Distinguished Guests.—Guests of honor to our Section during this period were Miss Helen Zahara and the President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, who was accompanied by Bro. Alfredo Puig, of whom we retain very happy memories. We cannot express sufficiently our gratitude for the kindnesses they showered upon us. The private talks with the members, and the lectures given to the public gave great results. Both lecturers attracted large audiences and revived public interest in Theosophy, both in Santiago, the capital of Chile, and in Valparaiso, the principal port of this country. The State University opened its doors and the Press echoed their activities. All the members of the Section consider the visit of our beloved President as a matter of great pride, and we treasure his memory in our hearts.

Work for Brotherhood.—The Lodges carried out social work among fellow-members and with organizations sympathetic to Theosophy.

Summing-up.—The Section maintained activity in an atmosphere of peace and optimism. It is nourished by idealistic hopes and creative aspirations in its resolve to work ever better than before. The members desire to serve the ideal which inspires and animates the work according to their best capacities. The work of the Society has developed normally, relatively reduced in proportion,

but strong and constant. Each Lodge has continued its work and carried out its duties with free initiative, intelligently and joyfully, not allowing itself to be discouraged by difficulties, which of course are never absent in such a high cause. Both in their internal work and in their public activities they have displayed diligence, spurred on by their eagerness to serve, to collaborate, and to unite in solidarity and fraternity. The Society feels strengthened to overcome difficulties by reason

of its capacities, possibilities and realizations. All the members are conscious of the obligations entailed on them as seekers for Truth. Above all, they wish to increase their efficiency in the task of spreading the Theosophical message. They seek to sow the seeds of the Good, and to create Beauty; and to be good workers for the realization of the Divine Plan.

RICARDO MICHELL ABES-PADILLA,

General Secretary.

BRAZIL

Two Important Events.—The period under review will certainly be marked in the history of the Theosophical Society in Brazil by two important and happy events. The first was the visit of our illustrious President of the Theosophical Society, Mr. N. Sri Ram, a very significant event, for he was the first World President of the Theosophical Society to visit this country while exercising that function. He stayed here for a period of 21 days, during which he visited the following cities: Recife, Salvador, Rio de Janeiro, Belo Horizonte, Sao Paulo, Santos, Curitiba, and Porto Alegre. In these cities he gave wonderful public lectures, as well as private talks to the members of the Society. These meetings aroused great interest, and attracted to the public lectures large audiences which benefited greatly by the teachings transmitted by our famous President. We can be sure that this visit will have a beneficial result on the life and activities of our Section, and will prove of the greatest importance for our Cause; we hope to have the good fortune of having it repeated periodically. His lectures and talks were admirably translated by our esteemed brother, Alfredo Puig, of the

Cuban Section, who accompanied the President in the capacity of interpreter and secretary, and to this splendid brother we express our gratitude for the excellent service he has rendered our Section.

The other great event was the acquisition of our own Headquarters and the installation there of several Lodges, the Federation of the Theosophical Lodges in the State of Sao Paulo, and the National Section. Our Headquarters occupies two floors; it is situated in the heart of the Capital, at 29 Rua Anita Garibaldi. This acquisition enables the Lodges which meet there to assemble more frequently.

Activities of the Theosophical Lodges.—Taking as the starting point the Report sent to Adyar for 1954 which was altered due to fresh information, we give the following statement: According to that report there were 29 Lodges, and since then we have founded 5 new Lodges as follows—Raimundo Pinto Seidl, in Mogi das Cruzes, State of Sao Paulo; Independencia, in the city of S. José dos Campos, State of Sao Paulo; Kalakshetra, in the Capital; Jinarājādāsa, composed of young people, in Rio de Janeiro; and Lotus

Branco, in Ilha do Governador, Rio de Janeiro. We have also to inform you that Lodge Giordano Bruno, which had formerly been dormant, has again become active in the city of Sorocaba in this State. We have, therefore, 35 Lodges in this National Section at the present moment.

Theosophical Publications.—We have pleasure in reporting the publication of that excellent book by Mr. C. Jinarājadāsa, *First Principles of Theosophy*, in its third Brazilian edition, which corresponds to the present eighth English edition in which a new chapter has been added by the author under the title of "Nature and her Message of Beauty". This book has been much looked forward to by Brazilian Theosophists and will do much to facilitate the spread of Theosophy in our country, in view of the fact that it presents in a most delightful manner the most interesting aspects of the Divine Wisdom. But its value, although it has been preferred lately for study in Lodges, is its presentation for the public, which was done during the visit of our illustrious World President, as a modest tribute to such an auspicious event.

O Teosofista.—By force of circumstances it was found necessary to change the type of this review, which is our official organ. Issued in Rio de Janeiro, the review has increased the number of its pages from 40 to 56, which will allow for the publication of longer articles. Happily the financial side has also improved. We owe this especially to Industrias Graficas Padilla S/A who have printed the review scarcely covering the cost of the use of linotype, that is to say, the composing. A printing has just been very beautifully made. We wish to express our thanks for the magnificent work done in preparing the review by our Brothers Iracema Wey, Nilva Andrade Pinto and Luiz Cristone, who have done a valiant work in collabora-

tion, so that we have been able to send out the review regularly to our subscribers.

Department of Propaganda.—The Theosophical Order of Service has been revived thanks to the collaboration of a group of unattached members, among whom we have specially to mention our Sister D. Nilce Helena da Silva Cunha. With great satisfaction we record the development of the work, particularly in the branch of social service, the making of clothes for children and adults less favored by fate, layettes for poor babies, food and medicine for those in need, besides many other activities. The T.O.S. should appeal to the aspiration of our numerous members who desire manifestly to lend their co-operation always to activities of this nature. We are led to believe that owing to the enthusiasm now being shown, it will develop more and more in the future, offering opportunities for service to many elements, for it is a "union of those who love in the service of those who suffer".

Membership Changes.—According to the annual report sent you, we numbered 856 members in September last year. Basing our return on the annual figures received from 29 Lodges, we have verified the existence in the same Lodges of 874 members, to which must be added 12 unattached members, making a total of 886. Reckoning a total of 98 members in the Lodges which up to the present have not sent in their annual returns, and calculating according to the returns sent in the previous year by those Lodges, presumably there exist in our Section 976 members, an increase of 120 members. This fact cannot fail to be auspicious, in view of our care not to proselytize but simply to spread our ideals.

Expression of Thanks.—We thank the members of the Executive Council and General Council for their valuable

co-operation in the work of the Section, which has helped us to carry on the work, and we also thank those anonymous members for their valued assistance in work-

ing for the growth of the Society and its ideals.

ARMANDO SALES,
General Secretary.

BULGARIA

No Report

ICELAND

During this last period of work one new Lodge was founded in the neighbourhood of Reykjavik and was called the White Lily, and now we have 11 Lodges in Iceland.

There was great activity in the Section and we gained 35 new members. The Order of Service was active and the magazine of the Section was issued twice, as usual.

The 80th Anniversary of the Theosophical Society was celebrated in the Headquarters Hall on the 17th of November with lectures, recital and music. The day before we had a programme on the State Radio.

Mr. Edwin Bolt held a summer school in June, attended by about forty people.

I lectured in all the Lodges in the country, in some of them many times, and I

also gave some lectures on the State Radio, all in the spirit of Theosophy.

The annual Convention was held on September 30th and October 1st. I had decided to resign as General Secretary, having held the office for 21 years. The new General Secretary is Mr. Sigvaldi Hjálmarsson, a very promising young man. At the annual meeting I was elected Honorary President of the Section.

In this my last report I wish to express my thanks to all my co-workers for so many years and all my best wishes to the Society which I have served for so long a time. May it continue to spread its message of Truth under the banner of Freedom and Friendship all over the world.

GRETAR FELS,
General Secretary.

SPAIN

No Report

PORTUGAL

During this period the Lodges already existing in Lisbon and in the provinces continued their normal activities. Lodge Koot Hoomi has not yet resumed its work, but it is not extinguished. Little groups for study in the provincial towns continue their work with enthusiasm.

We have celebrated this year the great Theosophical festivals. We held general meetings every fortnight to give our members a deeper understanding of Theosophical teachings and to increase their knowledge of comparative religion and philosophy. Some of the meetings took the form of symposiums and some were

lectures. These gatherings were often helped by the Choral Group of our Section, which was organized last year by members living in Lisbon who have musical ability.

In June we received a visit from Mr. J. van Dissel, who was kind enough to attend some meetings and to give us his assistance. This was much appreciated by all members.

Our financial difficulties remain, but the life of the Society continues.

FELIX BERMUDEZ,
General Secretary.

WALES

Membership.—During the year 14 new members were enrolled, one member was reinstated and 5 were transferred to Wales from other Sections. Five members were lost by death, 2 resigned and 3 lapsed, while 7 were transferred to other Sections. We gained 20 but lost from our Section 17, resulting in a gain of only three. The total membership on 30th September was 186, as compared with 183 in 1955 and 188 in 1954. Removals from the area constantly affect our register and handicap weak Lodges.

The death of active members always brings sadness and a sense of loss. In May, Mr. Peter Freeman who was a pioneer of Theosophical work in Wales, died at the age of 67. He was the first General Secretary of the Section, an office which he held for 22 years.

Lodges.—A new Lodge, called the Golden Eagle, was chartered in January at Pontypridd, the heart of the industrial and commercial centre of the Rhondda

with a population, including that of the surrounding mining area, of 250,000.

We have, however, reluctantly withdrawn the Charter of one of our oldest Lodges, Merthyr-Tydfil, owing of the removal of several members. It is felt that those interested can link up with the Pontypridd Lodge.

The Charter of the Penarth Lodge has also been withdrawn since the death of Mr. Peter Freeman. This town is so near to Cardiff and members feel that they can at present make use of the facilities of Cardiff Lodge.

This reduces the number of our Lodges by one. A new Centre at Criccieth in Caernarvonshire is active, the members meeting regularly in the house of one of the members. It is felt that there is scope for growth here. One of the members is Miss Conigrave, the friend of the late Miss Kate Smith, whose valuable library is available for the use of members.

Our Annual Convention.—This was held in June in Cardiff. Mrs. Adelaide Gardner was our guest speaker, and gave us an inspiring weekend.

Visitors to the Section.—Mr. Rohit Mehta visited Cardiff in March and gave two public lectures and a talk to members. For the lecture "India, the Commonwealth and the World," the chair was taken by the Secretary of the Wales U.N.A. Other visitors who have helped us are Miss C. Davey (Liverpool), Mr. and Mrs. Coats, Dr. Shearman, Col. Chodkiewicz, Mr. Basil Howell, Miss Sayer, Miss Marcia King, Miss Ashton, and others from the North-West and South-West Federations of England.

The National Council met four times during the year. The General Secretary and the National Treasurer attended the European Congress at Baden in September.

The Theosophical Order of Service.—*Aid to Refugees.* Active assistance to the Camp Adoption scheme and to the Wings of Friendship was continued. Members of the Cardiff Lodge are also actively assisting the campaign now being organized by U.N.A. to help refugees.

Miss Knowles, the President of the Cardiff Lodge, has acted during the year as Secretary of the Cardiff branch of U.N.A. in the absence of the Secretary.

Mr. Charles James, Chief Brother of the T.O.S. in Wales, is Vice-President of the Cardiff branch and Assistant Secretary of the special Campaign Committee to aid Refugees. Cardiff Lodge is in this way closely linked with the work of U.N.A.

Conclusion.—There is not much of fresh interest to report. The work goes on steadily though progress seems slow and one is always disappointed that the objects of the Society are not better understood throughout Wales, whose motto is "The Truth against the World" (Y Gwir yn erbyn y byd). There is undoubtedly a serious lack of leaders in places where help is needed and small struggling Lodges are greatly handicapped.

Happily we feel, however, that the Theosophical ideal of universal brotherhood is spreading in Wales as is evidenced by various activities social, cultural and educational.

E. CLAUDIA OWEN,
General Secretary.

POLAND

No Report

URUGUAY

During the past year the seven Lodges of this Section have met regularly, at least in the later months, for H. P. B. Lodge has now been regularized.

Lodge Harmonia.—The Lodge has developed a useful programme under its triple rotating presidency, under the watchful

attention of its Director of Studies, Sra. Julia A. de La Gamma, on themes from Annie Besant, C. W. Leadbeater, C. Jinārājādāsa, N. Sri Ram and other well-known authors.

Lodge Morya.—The President, Sra. Esmeralda N. de Laguarda, assisted twice a

month by the lectures of Bro. Al. A. Araujo, has given new translations of fundamental texts and watches the Theosophical movement throughout the world.

Lodge Vidya.—Although there are very few members it is kept going by the constancy of its President, Srta. Berna Canvase, with the assistance of members from other Lodges, offering a varied programme of Theosophy, poetry and music. This Lodge is now undergoing reorganization with the help expected from some members who will transfer to it voluntarily from Lodges with more members.

Lodge Ariel.—This Lodge, founded in 1924 by the present General Secretary who is once again its President, is the only one left of the 7 founding Lodges of the Uruguayan Section. Its programme uses lantern slides, diagrams, etc., for the teachings of H. P. B., the *Letters of the Masters*, and *The Theosophist*, and is also in harmony with Buddhism, J. Krishnamurti and our International President, N. Sri Ram.

Lodge Pallas Athaene.—This Lodge is presided over by the General Treasurer, Sr. H. Luis Sarthou, who gives talks and lectures freely on the texts of various books by Annie Besant especially, also on Yoga and Eastern authors, and J. Krishnamurti.

Lodge Karma Marga.—The President is Sr. Fulgencio Horra, who has had wide previous experience in other countries. He has drawn up a very varied programme, focussing especially on practical aspects and on conduct.

Lodge H. P. Blavatsky.—This is presided over by Sr. Perini Balbi, who arranged in the earlier months a programme on Theosophy and science, but this was interrupted by his temporary absence. We are now reorganizing it.

The Adyar and the Youth Groups.—These function intermittently.

Enclosed we send £10-0-0 as our contribution for 1956.

MARIO RADAELLI,
General Secretary,

PUERTO RICO

The number of our members has decreased this year due to the fact that I decided to drop those members who move to distant places, or leave the town without notice, or for negligence or lack of enthusiasm do not attend Lodge meetings or have not paid their dues for more than two years.

Last year we had an enrolment of 107. We had two new members during the year but dropped 19 members, leaving a total of 90 to begin the year 1956.

We have continued all our activities as usual. The *Heraldo* is sent to all the Spanish-speaking countries. Radio talks are conducted by our Treasurer, Señor

Gonzalez Quinones, very efficiently; he has a period of fifteen minutes every Sunday at 9.30 a.m. Dr. Alfonso gives a public lecture once a month; he started last month a series on "The History of Religions". He is a wonderful speaker and a very learned man and I feel this topic will help the members very much.

Señor Plard, our former Secretary, continues his classes on Sundays and Tuesdays and Señores Quinones and Lopez have their study groups on Friday evenings. All festivities were celebrated, including United Nations Day.

Convention was held on April 1st and it was very successful. Señor Gonzales

wrote a good report about it in *The Theosophist* of last June.

Though our Section is small in number we have a select quality of members who can face the responsibilities as they come along; even with a lower enrolment this year I have no fear as to the future of the Society, as I am sure we will keep on working harder than ever to spread Theosophy and fulfil our duties as Theosophists.

The biggest event we had in our Section this year was the visit of our International President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, and his secretary and translator, Mr. Alfredo Puig. Their stay was short but we managed to

have one address for members, and five public lectures, three in our building, one at the University of Puerto Rico and one at the Masonic Temple. The public was well impressed with his lectures and his spirituality and I think his work has not been in vain. We were very happy to have the privilege of this visit of our beloved International President. It was a long and strenuous tour for him and we have appreciated it immensely. It was a blessing for our Sections and the countries he visited.

ESPERANZA C. HOPGOOD,
General Secretary.

RUMANIA

No Report

YUGOSLAVIA

No Report

CEYLON

Our report to Headquarters at Adyar for the year 1954-55 referred to the visits of Mr. and Mrs. Rohit Mehta and Mr. M. Subramaniam, to whom we owed in great measure the revival of the Ceylon Section; and the visit of Mrs. Mary Elmore of Adyar to preside over our annual Convention.

It was generous and kind of Mrs. Elmore to prolong her stay among us. She remained from the close of Convention till nearly the middle of December, giving talks to Lanka, Besant, Olcott and

Kurunegala Lodges, and helped members in pursuing study classes.

Although three of our Lodges have been inactive for most of the year under review, it is pleasing to record and encouraging to note that the others have maintained active work in various forms.

The membership roll of the Section, appearing as 209 on 30th September 1954 and 194 on 30th September 1955, has dropped to 147 at the end of September this year. This diminution is the result of our Lodges being constrained, with

regret, to remove from their list of members those who have not only lapsed through non-payment of subscriptions but have, in addition, allowed themselves to remain inactive.

Towards the end of April 1956 Mr. M. Subramaniam spent nearly a week with us. One matter arranged during his visit was an indication to Lodges of methods which might be adopted in the celebration of the Sambuddha Jayanti year. A noteworthy result of his visit has been the formation of a new Lodge at Veyangoda; it was a happy decision of the founding members to adopt as its name the Lotus Lodge.

Later in the year we spent a busy month with Mrs. Mary G. Patterson, who divided her time between the Colombo Lodges, Lanka, Besant and Olcott; Kurunegala Lodge; the newly formed Lotus Lodge; Vasanta Lodge at Sri Palee and Shanti Lodge at Galle. Members of each of these Lodges have been greatly helped and encouraged by Mrs. Patterson and all are deeply grateful to her for the efforts devoted to their assistance. Her lectures and talks have been greatly appreciated.

Besant Day, Adyar Day and White Lotus Day were marked by special meet-

ings of Lodges; on Besant Day the Colombo Lodges had with them Mrs. Mary Elmore and others who brought us recollections of our revered leader, Dr. Annie Besant.

Among overseas visitors during the year we have had Miss Emma Hunt, Recording Secretary, whom we were happy to meet on her return to Adyar, Dr. R. T. Werther, Mrs. Joyce Murdoch, Miss Helen Zahara, Miss Shirley Macpherson, Miss Audrey Lymer and Mr. P. G. Dingomal of Johannesburg.

I regret having to close on a note of disappointment. It has not been feasible, though budgeted for, to produce *Plenoma* in 1956. We still have a small payment to make in settlement of the cost of the Journal for 1955. An appeal is made to all members to remit any arrears, and their annual subscriptions, punctually to their Lodges. With our reduced active membership the financial aspect of our work needs attention, and we look forward to the support of every member to enable us to make the Journal available once more.

N. K. CHOKSY,
General Secretary.

GREECE

The most important events of the year were the following:

(1) The visit of our President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, who gave a public lecture in Parnassos Lecture Hall at Athens and another in our Theosophical Centre. His speeches invigorated all the members of our Section and made a deep impression on the public.

(2) The visit of Mr. J. Krishnamurti to Athens, who gave three public lectures in Parnassos Lecture Hall.

(3) The publication of our new Theosophical magazine *Ilissos*, which is being issued quarterly. This new magazine is addressed to a broader reading public to which it brings Theosophical ideas. At present 1,500 copies are printed.

Liberty of thought and the free research of Truth without restrictions or prejudices are always cultivated in the Lodges of our Section. Our library has been enriched with the publication of *Reincarnation* by Annie Besant, and also

of a new book, *Greek Philosophers previous to Socrates and Theosophy*, by Mr. Melissaropoulos.

Our American and Canadian brothers and sisters, under the leadership of

Mr. Alexander Logofet of Washington, continue the relief of the Camp of Kolythou.

K. MELISSAROPOULOS,
General Secretary.

CENTRAL AMERICA

An event of exceptional importance this year has been the visit, so long and so anxiously awaited, of the International President of the Theosophical Society, Mr. N. Sri Ram, to five countries of this Section. His lectures have had the brilliant result, we trust, of re-awakening the enthusiasm of Theosophists and of arousing in the public a lively interest for the ideas expressed, and sympathy for our illustrious President. For us it has been not only a great pleasure, but a veritable privilege to have been able to come to know him personally.

The work of the Lodges of the Section has developed normally, and studies have been carried out according to the inclina-

tions of each. The following new members have joined:

Lodge Virya, San José, Costa Rica	..	1
„ Subirama, Tegucigalpa, Honduras	..	2
„ Prathibha, Managua, Nicaragua	..	2
„ Darlu, Rivas, Nicaragua	..	3
„ Teotl, San Salvador, El Salvador	..	1
„ Koot-Hoomi, Guatemala	..	1
		—
		10
		—

M. MONGE ECHANDI,
General Secretary.

PARAGUAY

No Report

PERU

No Report

PHILIPPINES

No Report

COLOMBIA

We have continued the publication of our 32-page pamphlets, and during the year have issued two new numbers, as follows:

No. 13—*El Hombre del Mañana* (The Man of Tomorrow), 1,000 copies issue, January 1956.

No. 14—*La Teosofia, los Teosofos y la Obra de la Sociedad Teosofica* (Theosophy, Theosophists and the Work of the Theosophical Society), by N. Sri Ram.

We are sorry to report this year 54 lapsings and the temporary closing of 3 Lodges. A new Lodge La Montaña was formed in Medellin. Eighteen members were re-admitted and we had also 15 new

admissions, so the net decrease was 22, the number of members at the end of the year being 140.

The difficulties in several places of the country continue, which explains the closing of the Lodges.

This year we had the pleasure of receiving the visits of two prominent members of the Society, Mr. N. Sri Ram and Miss Helen Zahara, who very kindly included Bogotá in their tour, although both for a very short time. They left a deep impression on all of us, and great inspiration for the work.

CORINA MARTINEZ S.,
General Secretary.

EAST AFRICA

The East African Section consists of four territories, namely Zanzibar, Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika. Thus the Section as a whole covers a very large area. There are many difficulties in regard to transport and communications and the Executive have to face these in their attempt to spread the message of Brahma Vidya. However, the year under report shows solid but unspectacular progress.

Lodges and Membership.—During the year under report twenty Lodges were functioning in the whole of East Africa, with the total of 656 members who took keen interest in the spread of the Ancient Wisdom. They meet regularly on week days according to the convenience of members. Commemorative days, such as Foundation Day (17th November), Adyar Day (17th February) White Lotus Day, Vaishaki and Guru Purnima Days were duly observed, and lectures and talks appropriate to the occasion were given by members of the Lodges.

Convention.—The sixth annual Convention of this Section was held during the Christmas holidays from 24th to 26th December 1955, under the auspices of the Bharat Lodge at Chake Chake, Pemba (Zanzibar Protectorate).

An important item on the agenda of the Convention was the appointment of a "Lodge Organizer" to direct and render advice to the newly formed Lodges, to which post our energetic member, Bro. Keshani, was unanimously elected for a period of one year.

During the Convention interesting talks and lectures, both in English and Gujarati, were delivered by several brethren. It was the firm opinion of our National President and the members of the Executive that opportunity be given to younger members of the Society to come forward and express their views either on the Society's work or on Theosophical subjects, and the opportunity was gladly taken by many young members present.

Some of them expressed their views as to why they had joined the Society and the difficulty in grasping the Ancient Wisdom.

The subjects of each Lodge having its own building and the collection of funds to meet expenses on important occasions, were discussed at a meeting but were left to the discretion of individual Lodges.

At the invitation of the Nairobi Lodge, the next annual Convention will be held at Nairobi during the Christmas holidays from 23rd to 25th December 1956.

National President's Tour of Inspection.—During the year under report our National President, accompanied by Bro. H. D. Shah and others, made an extensive tour visiting several Lodges of our Section. His report, which has been forwarded to the International President at Adyar, gives some idea of the interest taken by our Executive members.

Invitation to Miss Clara Codd.—The Executive Committee members have unanimously approved that Miss Clara Codd be invited on a two months' tour of East Africa to deliver lectures at various centres on the subject of Theosophy, and give guidance and advice if necessary on the working of the Lodges. Arrangements have been made accordingly for Miss Codd to pay us a visit in December 1956.

Publicity Work.—As in previous years, each Lodge kept its doors open to local social, educational and cultural organizations. The public lectures at several of our Lodges are reported to be well attended. In order to cultivate more in-

terest amongst our brethren, and to acquaint them with the activities of various Lodges, it has been decided to re-start publishing a monthly journal, *The Saurabh*, the first issue of which will appear in October 1956.

Theosophical Books.—A very large stock of both Gujarati and English books on Theosophy and allied subjects is now maintained by the Society, and we are grateful to the Theosophical Publishing House for their help in the selection of suitable books for our brethren.

Obituary.—It is with deep regret that I have to record the passing away of our dear Bro. D. M. Anjaria who rendered selfless services in the cause of Theosophy in East Africa and we pray that his soul may rest in everlasting peace.

Conclusion.—I am glad to report that the financial position of our Section is now very sound. Care is taken to maintain the utmost economy in expenditure, which at times is borne personally by members of the Executive.

It is improper not to record the selfless service rendered by Bro. Sant Sitaram during his stay in East Africa. It is due to his efforts that the standard of work in our younger Lodges has so much improved and the welfare of the Society is assured.

We pray that the work which was begun in His Name and by His Blessings may be continued to His Glory and enhance the minds and souls of all seekers after truth.

V. H. KAPADIA,
General Secretary.

PAKISTAN

The Theosophical Society in Pakistan has completed a year of steady and useful work in all its Lodges. There are now

seven Lodges and two Centres working in Pakistan, viz., 3 Lodges at Karachi, 2 at Hyderabad Sind, including a Youth

Lodge, 1 in Quetta and 1 in Comilla, East Pakistan. The two Centres are at Jessore (East Pakistan) and at Lahore (West Pakistan).

The Karachi Lodge has submitted an interesting report on its activities during the year. The Lodge gained five members but lost five due to resignations. Unfortunately a number of members dropped from the rolls due to non-payment of dues and the strength of the Lodge stands now at 121. The Lodge reports activities for at least three days per week. It runs a class on Theosophy for newcomers, weekly talks on *At the Feet of the Master*, and public lectures every week on Theosophical and allied subjects. Its Library and Reading Room are very well used not only by members but by the public at large. A number of members from the Lodge are active in social service and are recognized for their work in different fields.

The new building of the Lodge, estimated to cost Rs. 2 lakhs, is under construction and will be completed in February or March 1957. The Lodge hopes then to organize many new activities and to revitalize the old ones. Among the new constructions will be a large and well-equipped Library and a modern Lecture Hall with a seating capacity for 550 persons and a fine platform attached.

This year is also significant to the Lodge being its Diamond Jubilee Year. On 21st December 1956, the Lodge completes 60 years of its existence.

Other Lodges in Pakistan continue steadily with their work, having weekly activities of Theosophical classes or public lectures. Their reports indicate a steady strength of membership maintained by most of the Lodges.

Due to long distances of hundreds of miles separating these Lodges, it has been increasingly difficult to send visitors and lecturers to support the work. A distance of 1,200 miles separates East and West Pakistan with air travel, which is expensive, as the only means of communication. Even Lodges in West Pakistan are divided by six to seven hundred miles from each other. This makes contact rather difficult. Nevertheless, during the year, the Presidential Agent visited Lahore twice and tried to vitalize the Centre there. It is hoped that next year it will be possible to visit many more Lodges and perhaps establish new ones.

Workers in this region are looking ahead to a new year with the hope that the Theosophical Society in Pakistan may in time be able to expand into a Section.

GOOL MINWALLA,

Presidential Agent.

MALAYA AND SINGAPORE

No Report

NORTHERN IRELAND

The Theosophical Society in Northern Ireland has had a quiet year. All activities have continued as in last year's re-

port. A rather high intake of new members partly counterbalanced an exceptionally high rate of resignations and transfers

to other Sections, and the total membership at 30th September was 69.

At the annual Convention in June 1956, Sri Rohit Mehta was our guest speaker. Other visiting lecturers during the year under review were Dr. Cyril V. Pink, Mr. John Coats, Miss Helen Zahara, Mrs. M. P. Daw, and Mrs. Gardner.

Nine of our members travelled to Dublin to participate in the annual Convention of the Theosophical Society in Ireland. We were also represented at the

International Convention at Adyar, at the British Isles summer school and at the European Congress at Baden, Austria; members visited St. Michael's Centre in the Netherlands, and the Organizing Secretary made two lecture tours in England and Wales. To visit and be visited is particularly helpful when a group of members is fairly small and rather isolated.

HUGH SHEARMAN,
Organizing Secretary.

VIET-NAM

Membership.—The membership is 393, an increase of 43.

Public Lectures.—We have talks, socials and public lectures every Sunday at the Headquarters of the Society at Phu Nhuan (Saigon).

Our Review.—The official organ of the Theosophical Society in Viet-Nam is the magazine *Dao Hoc*, of which 2,000 copies are printed for sending to members and for sale to the public.

Publications.—We have just printed 2,000 copies of a work entitled *Dao Ly Thuc Hanh (Practical Theosophy)* in two volumes for free distribution to members and sympathizers. These contribute greatly to the propagation of Theosophy among the masses. We have reprinted in Vietnamese 5,000 copies of the little book *At the Feet of the Master*, which is also intended for free distribution.

The Library.—We have a Theosophical lending library which is open every day. The books are in French and Vietnamese.

Orphanage.—The Theosophical Society's Orphanage in Viet-Nam has always been well supported, and receives general approval. It has 35 beds and receives children less than two years old. Children who have reached the age of two are

transferred to another orphanage. They are very well looked after. Our resources come from the hiring of chairs, the gifts of benefactors, and an annual grant from the Vietnamese Government.

Lodges.—The work of the Lodges is satisfactory on the whole. Lodge Chon Ly (The Truth) at Hué, led by brother Hoa Giai, assisted by brother Le Van Mung, a very active Theosophist, does very good work. Weekly lectures take place regularly at their headquarters. A monthly bulletin is printed by duplicator and a number of copies are sent free to members and sympathizers.

Lodge Kiem-Ai (Universal Love) at Ban-Co (Saigon), under the leadership of brother Phan Van Hien (1st Vice-President of the Administrative Council of the Theosophical Society in Viet-Nam) functions regularly. Regular meetings with talks take place every Saturday evening at their headquarters. Theosophical books in Vietnamese and French as well as Theosophical bulletins are always displayed and can be borrowed free by members and sympathizers.

Lodge Duoi Chon Thay (At the Feet of the Master) at Vinh-Long, conceives its fundamental work to be: Brotherhood—

lived in the bosom of the Lodge; in the home; in society. Brother Nguyen Minh Tam, an active Theosophist, is president of this Lodge. Meetings for members are held twice monthly.

Lodge An Giang at Chaudoc has made great efforts which are worthy of our praise. Meetings are held each Saturday evening at their headquarters for the study of the teachings of Theosophy and of other religions. With a duplicating machine the leaders, brothers Chau Van Dong, Huynh Ba Nhe, Le Quang Dien and Truong Van Hieu, have been able to publish every second month a Theosophical bulletin which is much appreciated. Each time 1,000 copies are run off for free distribution to the members and sympathizers.

The other Lodges work in a somewhat irregular fashion, because the greater number of their members live at a distance from the Lodge, so that each member has to study at home, since meetings are held only rarely.

New Lodges.—During the visit to Viet-Nam of Brother M. Subramaniam he assisted in the formation of two new Lodges: (1) Lodge Saigon, with headquarters at No. 72/6 Rue Nguyen-Dinh-Chieu, Saigon—president of the Lodge, brother Nguyen Huu Kiet; and (2) Lodge Leadbeater, with headquarters at 420 Rue Vo-Di-Nguy, Phu Nhuan (Saigon)—president of the Lodge, brother Truong Khuong.

Visit of Brother M. Subramaniam.—Brother Subramaniam's visit to our Section lasted from 31st July to 10th August 1956. He gave public lectures and friendly talks at Saigon, Vinh-Long, Longxuyen and Chaudoc. At Chaudoc he spoke on Buddhism to an audience of more than 2,000 people grouped around the Vietnamese Budd Gaya. This was a great success.

Delegation to the 80th International Convention.—Two delegates from Viet-Nam were present at the 80th International Theosophical Convention at Adyar; brothers Phan van Hien and Truong Khuong.

Construction.—Brother Truong Khuong, authorized by the Directing Council of the Theosophical Society in Viet-Nam, has constructed at his own expense on the premises of the Headquarters, a house of two storeys which after his death will become the property of our Section. Brother Truong Khuong acts as host to the members visiting the Headquarters, who stay in his house.

Conclusion.—For some time past difficulties have arisen everywhere. It is the karma of our Section and of our country equally. However, we have done the best we could and the results have been satisfactory.

PHAM-NGOC-DA,
General Secretary.

STATE OF ISRAEL

After having learnt the very gratifying news indeed, that "the work of the Theosophical Society is once again active in Egypt" (see *The Theosophist*, August 1956), we availed ourselves of the opportunity offered on the occasion of our Annual Meeting in Tel-Aviv on the 2nd November 1956 of sending in common meditation—via Adyar—our profound

thoughts of good-will, peace and friendship to our brethren in Cairo hoping that Egypt and Israel may soon be drawn together in a spirit of forgivingness, unity and co-operation now that the light of Theosophy is shining there again.

The outstanding event in the period under reference was—after a year's

careful preparation—the establishment of our third Lodge in Israel, this time in the Holy City of Jerusalem, on the 12th June 1956. One of the most prominent features of our Society, viz., its very international character, is clearly mirrored in the composition of the “godfathers” of this new little “child” of ours, with members hailing from Iraq, Morocco (France), U.S.A., Rumania and Austria working together in complete harmony and understanding. The name chosen for the new Lodge by its founders is Moriah, indicating not only one of our venerated Master-Sponsors, but also Mount Moriah, the place where King Solomon’s Holy Temple was erected.

Three new admissions and five transfers from other Sections—one from the Netherlands and four from Morocco (France)—an increase of eight, brought the total of our membership in Israel to 33.

Fortnightly meetings for members and guests were held in the Covenant Lodge of Tel-Aviv and in the then Jerusalem Centre, and international relations were maintained by our sister Mrs. Ilse Fischer, a member of the Covenant Lodge, who visited Huizen, and Mrs. Sylvia Scapa from New York, U.S.A., who came to Israel for a short stay.

Contact was furthermore continued with the “Oneg Shabbath” circle of Naharia by inviting its chairman, Dr. E. Bloch, to deliver a lecture: “Israel and her eschatological significance” in the Covenant Lodge on the 23rd May 1956, which gave our members and visitors much valuable material for deep reflection and for the lively exchange of views.

One of our dailies in German, *Yedioth Hayon*, published a long and very appreciative article by Dr. Josef Finkelstein: “Bei den Theosophen Israels” on the 21st October 1956, which introduced Theosophy to the Israeli public for the

first time on a somewhat larger scale. This resulted in a number of letters received—one enquiry emanating even from England—which led to very valuable contacts with a member from the Belgian Section, Mrs. Berthe Kaufmann, residing in Israel but without knowledge of our existence so far, and with a promising young gentleman who became interested in Theosophy.

On the 11th of April 1956, Mr. Hans Zeuger, the Presidential Agent, spoke in the home of Mrs. Margot Klausner in Tel-Aviv, where a group of people interested in occult and psychological research is meeting regularly, on the theme: “Parapsychological phenomena in the light of Theosophy”; the talk was very well received by the audience.

White Lotus Day was again celebrated very peacefully in Tel-Aviv, with both piano recitals and declamations of parts of the *Bhagavad Gita*, *The Light of Asia* and the *Old Testament*.

Our library is increasing steadily and the circulation of books amongst our members and interested persons is intensive. A most valuable and particularly welcome addition, received as a gift from our old and beloved friend, Bishop John H. Cordes, consists of a complete set of Col. H. S. Olcott’s *Old Diary Leaves*—a very treasure of Theosophical information—which we acknowledge with sincere delight and gratitude.

Very much to our regret the editing of our news-bulletin *Mitteilungsblatt* had to be interrupted for approximately a year owing to technical difficulties beyond our control, but fortunately appropriate arrangements have been made in the meantime which have led to the re-appearance of our modest periodical.

HANS ZEUGER,
Presidential Agent.

JAPAN

No Report

VENEZUELA

During the year from 1st October 1955 to 30th September 1956 the following activities have been carried on in this Section.

New Lodge.—In the city of Barquisimeto, Lodge Evolution has been formed. It has been working with great fervor and enthusiasm. I have paid periodic visits to this Lodge.

New Members.—During the year which ended today, we enrolled 35 new members, included in which are those who constitute Lodge Evolution. There have been 2 re-admissions, and 1 member has transferred from Holland.

Members Lost.—In the course of the present year 3 members were lapsed: 2

for failing to attend or give information and 1 who has left for Colombia, his native country.

Visits.—From 3rd to 9th May we had among us our President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, who delivered 5 public lectures and 2 private ones in this city. He also gave one lecture in the city of Barquisimeto. His visit was the cause of many new members joining the Society.

Service.—We continue to send out lessons on Theosophy by correspondence to those who ask for them.

PABLO BONILLA T.,
General Secretary.

WEST AFRICA

Membership.—The year under review marks the coming of age of Theosophy in West Africa. In addition to 112 members in good standing with the Society transferred to us from the English Section on the formation of the Theosophical Society in West Africa this year, there has been an increase of 18, but the passing of the President of the Koforidua Centre in June thus brings the total number to 129. It is noteworthy that while hitherto our graduates of British Universities who constitute the professional class have shown no interest whatsoever in our philosophy, the 18 new members include the first student of the University College of the Gold Coast, Legon, Accra.

Lodges and Centres.—There are four Lodges: Blavatsky at Accra, Arundale at Denu, Besant at Sekondi Takoradi, and Raja at Kumasi. Of the five Centres, three are in the Gold Coast—Nkawkaw, Koforidua and Dunkwa, and two in Nigeria—Onitsha and Kaduna.

Activities of the Lodges and Centres include weekly study classes and occasional public lectures. Each Lodge or Centre selects its own textbook and difficult points encountered are referred to the Organizing Secretary. In Accra, the classes are divided into two: junior and senior, under the leadership of the Vice-President and President respectively. Once a month the classes join together for purposes of

either an internal lecture by a selected member, or for general questions and answers. Public lectures, which are held at the Community Centre, are given publicly in the newspapers and are well attended. To help, encourage and sustain the interest of new members and enquirers, study groups have been arranged in members' houses. These meet weekly.

Annual Convention.—This was held at Easter in Accra from March 30th to April 2nd. Delegates from all the Lodges and Centres in the Gold Coast attended, our Nigerian brethren sending greetings and expressing regret for inability to send delegates for certain reasons. During the period the work of the Society in West Africa was considered and draft Rules were prepared. These still await final shaping by our legal adviser.

Summer School.—An experimental summer school, which was to have taken place in Kumasi on the invitation of the Raja Lodge, was held at Nkawkaw from August 4th to 6th. The change of place was due to the timely decision of the officers and members of the Lodge to avoid any risks their visitors might run in Kumasi owing to the political tension there at that time. The overall result was beyond all expectation. A member of the Centre who is the proprietor of a modest hotel provided accommodation and vegetarian food for the brethren. Although vegetarianism is not enforced, it is gratifying to note that

about 99 per cent of the members are vegetarians.

Some of the visitors who attended by invitation showed such great interest that they missed none of the talks on the subtitles of the main subject, "Fundamentals of Theosophy". The feeling of brotherliness and the harmonious atmosphere which characterized the few days was unique. Members returned to their several Lodges and Centres with renewed enthusiasm and a passing foretaste of the experience of what a practical Theosophical community life can be, whilst the Nkawkaw Centre was vitalized and inspired.

This Federation is only nine months old. Its chief objective at the moment is to concentrate on internal organization and to give effect to the increasing feeling of responsibility for the work undertaken. One of the main difficulties is the absence of erudite leadership and lectureship, none having ever before had the privilege of sitting at the feet of one of our Gamaliels, so to speak. Nevertheless, we rejoice in the opportunity offered for service and strain all efforts to utilize to the utmost the one talent entrusted to us in the knowledge that at the appointed time servers possessing the requisite qualification of both secular and occult lore will be available "to do Their Will".

K. BRAKATU ATEKO,
Organizing Secretary.

CANADIAN FEDERATION

Work has been progressing steadily in the Lodges of the Canadian Federation despite the fact that there has not been a great increase in membership. Public lectures have been given under the auspices of the Lodges, some Lodges holding regular public lectures all the year round,

others just when they can obtain a lecturer. Regular study classes are also held throughout the year.

One of the most encouraging events is the reformation of Wayfarers Lodge in Winnipeg, Manitoba. The members there are now doing their best to rebuild

themselves into a strong and active group. On the other side of the ledger it has been found necessary to close the Lodge in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, owing to the fact that the membership has been reduced to one. In addition study groups have been formed in other places and the hope is that these will eventually become strong enough to form Lodges.

We were also very fortunate in having the benefit of a visit from Mr. Geoffrey Hodson during the year. Mr. Hodson

spoke to well filled audience-halls in both Vancouver and Victoria.

At the time of writing this report we are working towards a new venture for this Federation, a Convention of our Lodges to be held in Vancouver at the Easter week-end of 1957. Tentative plans have already been laid and it is hoped that this venture will be a great success and the forerunner of regular Conventions to be held in future years.

JOAN S. MORRIS,
Secretary.

THE EUROPEAN FEDERATION

Since our last Council Meeting, held last year at the Theosophical Centre at Huizen and presided over by our President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, various activities can be reported.

On his way to South America, the President visited Athens and stayed also a few days in Paris, attending part of the French Convention. On his return from America he visited both London and Paris.

The original plan to hold our Congress this year in Geneva had to be dropped for various reasons, but as Austria had just become again an independent nation, it was decided instead to hold the Congress at Baden, a well-known watering-place near Vienna.

It may be the dharma of Austria, today a neutral in the heart of Europe, lying between East and West, and with its capital Vienna, to help in the uniting of East and West Europe.

Because of the Congress, no Regional summer schools were held in the German and French-speaking Regions. The British and Irish Regional summer school at Swanwick (England) took place in August, while also at Gammel Praestegaard in Denmark a summer school was held.

The yearly recurring Regional meetings—originally only intended to discuss common problems and the possibilities of closer mutual co-operation with the General Secretaries and some officials of the Sections concerned—have gradually developed into small international gatherings.

In Basle this year the new Lodge building was inaugurated in the presence of the German and Austrian General Secretaries, who also gave lectures and talks to members and visitors from abroad, and a meeting of the Round Table also took place. In Brussels, where the Swiss and French General Secretaries and the Treasurer of the European Federation were present, Mr. Sassi, president of the Group de Genève, gave a much appreciated public lecture, while Mr. Francis Brunel showed to members a beautiful Indian film.

For the first time the British and Irish Regional Committee met at Tekels Park in the beautiful surroundings of Camberley, immediately after the English Convention, two General Secretaries and members of our Executive Committee being present. The Camberley Lodge co-operated in arranging a meeting.

These Regional meetings were presided over by the General Secretary of the European Federation. He further attended the English and Dutch Conventions and the Dutch summer school and paid a four days visit to Portugal, one of our isolated Sections working under rather difficult circumstances.

On the invitation of the English Section, the Indian General Secretary, Sri Rohit Mehta, made a lecture tour in the British Isles and Ireland, while Mr. John Coats visited France, Italy and was the guest speaker of the Danish summer school.

The European Federation publishes three periodicals: *Theosophy in Action*, edited by Mrs. Adelaide Gardner, *Adyar*, appearing in the German language, edited by Dr. Lauppert, while *Clarté*, the French periodical, is edited by Mlle. Pascaline Mallet with the assistance of Mr. Chapellier and Mr. George Tripet. The General Secretary of the Federation is Editor-in-Chief.

The Theosophical Society in Europe owes a great debt of gratitude to those responsible for their continued splendid work.

There is a good and lively contact with the Young Theosophists in Europe, who show great activity under their General Secretary, Mr. Rob Van Vloten. Their periodical *Enthousiasme* is well edited and appears in the French, English and German languages, with articles also in other languages.

It is a happy omen for the future that the work of the Round Table is growing, and gratifying to see their meetings on the programmes of Conventions and other Theosophical gatherings. With the exception of some Sections, one of the general complaints is that there are too few of the younger generation in our ranks.

We welcome as new General Secretaries in our midst: Mrs. Alice L. Berry

(England) and Mr. Gösta Lindström (Sweden).

Mr. Peter Freeman, who in years past has been a greatly valued member of the Executive Committee, has passed over to the greater Light. Our members will always also remember him as a champion for the protection of animals.

The work for refugees, started through the initiative of Mme. de Berg in close conjunction with the High Commissioner, has obtained excellent results, while Mrs. Betsan Coats is doing magnificent work also for refugees through the "Wings of Friendship," an organization started by her. Both activities are giving much credit to the Theosophical Society and bringing Theosophy and Theosophists to the notice of the public. There is still little news from behind the Iron Curtain.

The 22nd European Congress was held from September 8th—14th. The President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, presided over it on his way back from his American tour and before returning to Adyar. Sixteen Sections were officially represented, 12 by their General Secretaries. Some 360 delegates attended, coming from 22 countries, including India and U.S.A. The President gave several lectures and addresses. The main theme of the Congress was "The Rise of a New Cycle". A large part of the programme was devoted to Discussion Group meetings, held simultaneously in German, English and French. They proved most successful and helped to establish this valuable method of co-operative work and study. The Council and Executive met several times. Mr. van Dissel was re-elected General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Europe and Mr. A. Raven, Treasurer, both for a further period of three years. The Rules and Regulations have been revised, so as to be better adapted to our present work, while the Young Theosophists have been

given a greater responsibility on the European Council. It was not only a very harmonious and happy Congress, but was characterized by a current of new ideas and trends of thought.

There is no doubt that the Theosophical Society in Europe, founded already more than half a century ago—a prototype as it were of the United States of Europe to come—plays today her part in the growing integration of Europe. To be able to

do so in increasing measure will very much depend on our own efforts for strengthening the work all over Europe, by bringing everywhere the message of Theosophy, and on the realization that each individual country, even the smallest and most isolated, has a unique and much needed gift to contribute.

J. E. VAN DISSEL,
General Secretary.

THE WORLD FEDERATION OF YOUNG THEOSOPHISTS

Our Annual Meeting was held at Adyar during the 80th International Convention in December 1955. Sri M. V. Krishna Sastry and Srimati S. Sankari were elected the General Secretary and the Treasurer respectively. Those elected to the Executive Committee were Srimatis G. S. Meenakshi, P. K. Bhuvanewari, G. Sundari and Mr. Peter Hoffman. Two interesting symposia were held during the Convention which were presided over by Sri K. Sankara Menon and Miss Serge Brisy.

Sri M. V. Krishna Sastry was unable to continue as the General Secretary because of unforeseen circumstances and resigned. At the Executive Committee meeting held on November 10th 1956, Smt. G. Sundari was appointed the General Secretary.

Our Work in the Past Year.—There has been very little contact between the Youth Headquarters and the different Federations during the last year. We hope that this will not be so in the future and that there will be regular correspondence between Headquarters at Adyar and the General Secretaries of the various Federations. The annual Reports of the European, Australian and New Zealand Federations have been received. Those from Brazil,

Chile, Cuba, Mexico, Indonesia and the U.S.A. are still to come.

Summary of the Reports from the different Federations.

Australia.—The various groups of this Federation in Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth and Sydney have all been very active. Holding discussions, symposia, music evenings, social outings and giving radio talks are some features of their activities. Their quarterly magazine *Fraternity* has increased in sales and contains interesting articles. The summer school held last Christmas at Adelaide was very successful. This Federation has kept in touch with other Federations, specially with those in Europe and South America.

New Zealand.—There has not been much activity in the several groups of this Federation, except in Auckland where weekly meetings were held covering a wide range of activities besides study. The Federation Secretary writes that every effort will be made at the Theosophical Society's Convention in Wellington to re-organize the youth work in New Zealand.

Europe.—There have been activities of youth groups only in big cities like Paris, Florence, Brussels, The Hague, Helsinki

and Stockholm and a small group in Hanover. The Federation General Secretary writes that too few Young Theosophists are available to start any activity in other centres. Their magazine *Enthousiasme* has improved and the Secretary hopes that it will be of help in strengthening the relations between all Young Theosophists in Europe.

India.—Sri V. Gopalan the General Secretary toured the Gujarat, Maharashtra and Kannada Federations in December 1955, in connection with Youth work. He organized a Discussion Camp in Broach in May 1956 which was presided over by Smt. Shridevi Mehta. Sri Gopalan toured Andhra in June 1956 and attended a Youth Camp there. He reports that

the Youth Lodges in Bombay and Broach are very active and do excellent outdoor work.

Pakistan.—The Secretary of the Rukmini Devi Youth Lodge regrets that there is no annual Report to send, since the Karachi building where they used to hold their meetings is under reconstruction. She hopes that their activities will revive when this work is completed.

Indonesia.—Though we have not received the annual Report from this Federation, I learn from Sri M. Subramaniam, who toured this Section recently, that the Young Theosophists in Indonesia are very active.

G. SUNDARI,
General Secretary.

HEADQUARTERS

ADYAR, MADRAS 20

OFFICERS

1955—1956

Executive Committee:

- | | | |
|------------------------------|---|-------------------|
| (1) THE PRESIDENT | } | <i>Ex-officio</i> |
| (2) THE VICE-PRESIDENT | | |
| (3) THE RECORDING SECRETARY | | |
| (4) THE TREASURER | | |
| (5) SRIMATI RUKMINI DEVI | | |
| (6) DR. G. SRINIVASA MURTI | | |
| (7) MISS ANN KERR | | |
| (8) MR. K. S. RAJAGOPALAN | | |
| (9) MR. S. G. VENKATARAMANAN | | |

Adyar Library: DIRECTOR: MISS ANN KERR; LIBRARIAN: MRS. MARY G. PATTERSON.

Archives: MISS KATHERINE A. BEECHEY.

Bhojanasala: SUPERINTENDENT: MR. S. KRISHNAMURTI.

Dispensary: MEDICAL OFFICER: DR. E. SUNDARESAN.

Engineering Department: SUPERINTENDENT: MR. M. D. SUBRAMANIAM.

Garden Department: ADVISER: MR. N. YAGNESVARA SASTRY.

Laundry: SUPERINTENDENT: MR. M. V. GOPALAKRISHNA IYER.

Leadbeater Chambers: SUPERINTENDENT: MISS FLORENCE N. PULSFORD.

Legal Adviser: N. K. CHOKSY, ESQ., Q. C.

Medical Consultant: DR. G. SRINIVASA MURTI.

Post Office: MR. V. SRINIVASAN, SUB-POSTMASTER.

Sanitation and Hygiene Officer: MADAME P. CAZIN.

School of the Wisdom: PRINCIPAL AND DIRECTOR OF STUDIES: MR. N. SRI RAM;
ASSISTED BY: MISS EMMA HUNT AND MR. M. SUBRAMANIAM.

The Theosophical Publishing House: MANAGER: MR. K. S. KRISHNAMURTI.

The Vasanta Press: JOINT DIRECTORS: MR. K. S. KRISHNAMURTI, MR. K. RAMANATHAN;
MANAGER: MR. D. V. SYAMALA RAU.

Watch and Ward Department: SUPERINTENDENT: MR. K. S. KRISHNAMURTI.

THE ADYAR LIBRARY

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1955-56

The year saw the completion of two major projects undertaken during the previous years: re-classification of all printed books and editing of the *Laksmitantra*, as noted below under the respective headings.

The Council.—Meetings of the Council were held on 2nd December 1955 and 10th March 1956.

Staff.—In January 1956, Mr. A. Danielou and Mrs. R. Burnier resigned from their posts as Director and Assistant Director. On behalf of the Library Council, I express our appreciation for the good work done in the Library under Mr. Danielou's directorship, and for the capable assistance given by Mrs. Burnier. Miss Ann Kerr, Assistant Recording Secretary of the Theosophical Society, was appointed Director, pro tem.

Other changes in the staff are the resignation of Mr. N. R. Bhat, the appointment of Mr. Voyle Stewart as a half-time worker, the loss of Mr. Henry van de Poll, who passed away in April, and the resignation of Sri V. Hanumanthachar.

Dr. K. Kunjunni Raja, Mrs. R. Burnier and Mr. E. Fernandez have continued to give part-time help.

Research and Publications.—Pandit V. Krishnamacharya concluded the editing of the *Laksmitantra*. Pandit K. Ramachandra Sarma has been engaged in preparing a descriptive catalogue of the manuscripts on Prayoga, Vrata and Santi. Preparations have been started for sending to the Press a catalogue of manuscripts from Visva Bharati. The printing of the *Laksmitantra* text was begun. The second volume of the *Sangitaratnakara*, now out of print, was revised and sent to the Press for reprinting with the addition of an index of technical terms.

Copying.—Forty-two manuscripts have been copied during the year on order for other libraries and institutions, 4 microfilms of manuscripts and 2 of printed books were made, also on order. A programme of copying old and rare manuscripts belonging to the Adyar Library, for its own use, was authorized by the Council in March. Copies of 8 of these manuscripts were completed during the remaining months of the year.

Re-classification.—The re-classification of books was completed on 26th May 1956. Between October 1955 and May 1956, 16,067 books were re-classified. After May 1956, the classification of various previously unclassified and partially classified paper manuscripts was started. Sri V. Hanumanthachar, Sri. T. R. Venkatrama Sharma, Mr. Voyle Stewart and others were engaged in this work under the direction of Mrs. Mary G. Patterson, Librarian.

Theosophical Index.—Since March 1956, Srimati A. Siitaa Devii has been working on a subject index of Theosophical books which will be of use to students of Theosophy who come to Adyar. She has completed the indexing of such classics as: *The Ancient Wisdom, Man: Whence, How and Whither, The Pedigree of Man, A Study in Consciousness*, etc.

Braille Section.—A section for readers of English Braille was organized with an initial gift of 122 volumes (books and journals) from the Theosophical Book Association for the Blind, U.S.A., one from Margaret Dudley Braille Lodge, England, and two transcribed and presented by Miss Ann Kerr and Srimati Shakuntala Devi.

Accession.—During the year 660 new books were accessed and classified. Two of the 8 transcripts of manuscripts done

for the Adyar Library were bound and accessed, the others remaining to be bound in due course.

Repair and Binding.—592 books and 36 manuscripts have been repaired and rebound during the year. These figures include the mending of various manuscripts which were in an extremely brittle condition and required patient care and delicate handling. Mr. E. Fernandez has been in charge of this work.

Bulletin.—Two issues of the Bulletin were published: Vol. XIX, Part 3-4, December 1955, and Vol. XX, Part 1-2, May 1956.

In January 1956 an Editorial Board for the Bulletin was created. The members of the Board are Mr. N. Sri Ram, President of the Theosophical Society, Dr. V. Raghavan, Head of the Department of Sanskrit, Madras University, Dr. K. Kunjuni Raja, Lecturer in Sanskrit, Madras University, and Miss Ann Kerr, Director of the Adyar Library.

Plans were made for a special Buddha Jayanti issue for Vol. XX, Part 3-4, and about 14 scholars of Buddhism in many different countries were invited, by Dr. V. Raghavan on behalf of the Board, to write for that special issue, about 12 accepting the invitation.

The number of subscriptions and exchanges remains about the same as last year—100 subscriptions and 103 exchanges.

Borrowers and Readers.—On September 30th 1956, the Library membership totalled 208 (184 Readers; 23 Borrowers, 1 Braille Section). The Library, of course, continues its services to other libraries and institutions. 5,856 books and 2,408 manuscripts have been consulted during the year, and 1,983 books and manuscripts have been lent.

Gifts.—In addition to the gifts of Braille books noted above, the Library was presented, in August 1956, with a gift of 32 palmleaf manuscripts by Sri R. Santhana Sastri, Raghunathapuram, Tanjore. Most

of them are in fairly good condition and are duplicates or triplicates of manuscripts already in our Library, but one is new to our collection, namely, *Astangahrdaya-vyakhya*.

We continue to receive the gift of the Bollingen Series from the Bollingen Foundation, a total of seven books in that series having been received during the year.

In July, the large library of detective stories which had at one time belonged to Dr. G. S. Arundale, Mr. C. Jinarājadāsa and Mr. C. W. Leadbeater, and which had for some long time been in the office of the President of the Theosophical Society, was transferred to the Adyar Library. As all the books had to be fumigated and there was some uncertainty if they were to remain in the Library, the accession of these books was delayed until the President's return to Adyar near the end of September. It was decided then that the books are to be accessed as part of the fiction section of the Adyar Library.

Visitors.—Among the visitors to the Library during the year were Prof. Alsdorf, Hamburg University, Mr. Edward Marczewski, Rector of Warsaw University, Gadjin M. Nagao, of Kyoto University, M. Bors, Zurich University, Mr. Gordon W. Hewes, Colorado University, Dr. H. Kimura, Kyoto University, Dr. Leinhardt of Göttingen University.

On behalf of the Council, and on my own behalf as the temporary Director of the Library, I wish here to express grateful appreciation to Dr. V. Raghavan for his helpful service and for all the time and knowledge he has so graciously made available to the Library in spite of his other work and heavy obligations. I take this opportunity also to express appreciation to all others who have assisted by contributions of service, books and money.

ANN KERR,

Director.

THE SCHOOL OF THE WISDOM

REPORT ON THE SCHOOL YEAR FOR 1955-56

The 7th year of the School of the Wisdom began on 2nd October 1955 and closed on 9th March 1956.

It was a notable year for several reasons: Our Principal and Director of Studies was the President, Mr. N. Sri Ram. His inspiring inaugural address was followed by his introductions to and/or commentaries on, the large majority of the many subjects which were presented in the School throughout the year.

Miss Emma Hunt and Mr. M. Subramaniam divided the faculty responsibility. They were assisted by the students, and several speakers from Adyar and nearby cities, on special subjects.

The School enrolled a student body of 21—from 10 countries: U.S.A. 6, Ceylon 2, Malaya 1, N. Ireland 1, India 5, Australia 1, S. Africa 1, New Zealand 2, Pakistan 1, England 1.

The 80th International Convention of the Theosophical Society was held at Adyar this year. Most of the students did some helpful work in one or other of the various departments during this busy time. A few gave short lectures, or contributed to discussions, panels and symposiums.

There was a wide divergence among the students as to length of membership in the Theosophical Society; as to preparatory study of the Theosophical tenets; of languages, and of cultural interests. Yet a warm group feeling quickly established itself and this prevailed throughout the year.

All avenues of life at Adyar and the nearby city of Madras were available to

the students and many used the contacts and privileges thus offered. Several short trips were taken by individuals and groups from the School to nearby cities, temples, and places of historical interest.

Several teas were given by the President and student body, separately and together. One was an *au revoir* to those who had been resident on the Adyar estate during the talks and classes conducted nearby by Sri J. Krishnamurti.

The students participated in the religious holidays of the residents of Adyar. They were privileged to hear talks given by the heads of different departments about the work done in each and then to make a subsequent expedition to watch those departments in action.

The library co-operation was well organized and proved very helpful in many ways, especially in the research work done on some special project in the second term. Altogether it was a year of scholastic and cultural opportunity.

Several lantern talks were given on *The Mahatma Letters* and other subjects by Mr. M. Subramaniam. These alternated with weekly concerts of Western and Eastern music; Lodge activities (in Adyar and nearby Lodges) and artistic events in Madras.

The year closed as it began with a talk by the President to the School and a few friends, after which tea was served, with Mr. Sri Ram and Srimati Bhagirathi Sri Ram acting as host and hostess to those invited.

The most important keynotes of the year might be said to be the differences

between knowledge and wisdom; the "head" and "heart" doctrines; and the realization that while the forms are born and pass away—whether the forms of creatures, civilizations, or organizations—nothing is lost if the values remain for which those forms existed.

As this School of 1955-56 passes on it is to be hoped that none of the true values

of its all too brief existence will be lost. The heart gained wisdom as the head acquired knowledge, and the synthesis of it all is a greater joy in doing a more useful work in the light of a deeper, wider vision from life at Adyar.

NEDRA RUDER,
Secretary.

MEMORANDUM
OF
ASSOCIATION, ETC.

CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION

No. 2 of 1905

I hereby certify, pursuant to Act XXI of 1860 of the Governor-General of India in Council entitled "An Act for the Registration of Literary, Scientific and Charitable Societies, 1860," that The Theosophical Society is duly incorporated as a Society under the aforesaid Act.



(Sd.) A. PERIYASWAMI MOODALIAR,
Registrar of Joint Stock Companies.

Station, Madras,
Dated 3rd April 1905.

THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

FOUNDED NOVEMBER 17, 1875. INCORPORATED APRIL 3, 1905.

*In the matter of Act XXI of 1860 of the Acts of the Viceroy
and Governor-General of India in Council, being
an Act for the registration of literary,
scientific and charitable Societies*

and

IN THE MATTER OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION

1. The name of the Association is The Theosophical Society.

2. The objects for which the Society is established are:

I. To form a nucleus of the Universal Brotherhood of Humanity, without distinction of race, creed, sex, caste or colour.

II. To encourage the study of Comparative Religion, Philosophy, and Science.

III. To investigate unexplained laws of Nature and the powers latent in man.

(a) The holding and management of all funds raised for the above objects.

(b) The purchase or acquisition on lease or in exchange or on hire or by

gift or otherwise of any real or personal property, and any rights or privileges necessary or convenient for the purposes of the Society.

(c) The sale, improvement, management and development of all or any part of the property of the Society.

(d) The doing of all such things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects or any of them, including the founding and maintenance of a library or libraries.

3. The names, addresses and occupations of the persons who are members of, and form the first General Council which is the governing body of the Society, are as follows:

GENERAL COUNCIL

Ex-Officio

President-Founder:—H. S. Olcott, Adyar, Madras, Author.

Vice-President:—A. P. Sinnett, London, England, Author.

Recording Secretary:—Hon. Sir S. Subramania Aiyar, Madras, Justice of the High Court.

Treasurer:—W. A. English, M.D., Adyar, Madras, Retired Physician.

Alexander Fullerton, General Secretary, American Section, 7, West 8th St., New York.

Upendra Nath Basu, B.A., LL.B., General Secretary, Indian Section, Benares, U.P.

Bertram Keightley, M.A., General Secretary, British Section, 28, Albemarle St., London, W.

W. G. John, General Secretary, Australasian Section, 42, Margaret Street, Sydney, N.S.W.

Arvid Knos, General Secretary, Scandinavian Section, Engelbrechtsgatan, 7, Stockholm, Sweden.

C. W. Sanders, General Secretary, New Zealand Section, Queen Street, Auckland, N.Z.

W. B. Fricke, General Secretary, Netherlands Section, 76, Amsteldijk, Amsterdam.

Th. Pascal, M.D., General Secretary, French Section, 59, Avenue de la Bourdonnais, Paris.

Decio Calvari, General Secretary, Italian Section, 380, Corso Umberto I., Rome.

Dr. Rudolf Steiner, General Secretary, German Section, 95, Kaiserallee, Friedenau, Berlin.

Jose M. Masso, Acting General Secretary, Cuban Section, Havana, Cuba.

Additional

Annie Besant, Benares, Author, [for 3 years].

G. R. S. Mead, London, Author, [for 3 years].

Khan Bahadur Naoroji Dorabji Khandalvala, Poona, Special Judge, [for 3 years].

Dinshaw Jivaji Edal Behram, Surat, Physician, [for 2 years].

Francesca E. Arundale, Benares, Author, [for 2 years].

Tammacharla Ramachandra Row, Gooty, Retired Sub-Judge, [for 1 year].

Charles Blech, Paris, France, Retired Manufacturer, [for 1 year].

4. Henry Steel Olcott, who with the late Helena Petrovna Blavatsky and others founded the Theosophical Society at New York, United States of America, in the year 1875, shall hold, during his lifetime, the position of President, with the title of "President-Founder," and he shall have, alone, the authority and responsibility and shall exercise the functions provided in the Rules and Regulations for the Executive Committee, meetings of which he may call for consultation and advice as he may desire.

5. The income and property of the Society, whencesoever derived, shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the Society as set forth

in this Memorandum of Association, and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividends, bonus, or otherwise by way of profits to the persons who at any time are or have been members of the Society or to any of them or to any person claiming through any of them: Provided that nothing herein contained shall prevent the payment in good faith of remuneration to any officers or servants of the Society or to any members thereof or other person in return for any services rendered to the Society.

6. No member or members of the General Council shall be answerable for any loss arising in the administration

or application of the said trust funds or sums of money or for any damage to or deterioration in the said trust premises unless such loss, damage or deterioration shall happen by or through his or their wilful default or neglect.

7. If upon the dissolution of the Society there shall remain after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the Society or any of them but shall be given or transferred to some other Society or Association, Institution or Institutions, having objects similar to the objects of this Society, to be determined by the votes of not less than

Witnesses to the signatures:

(Sd.) WM. GLENNY KEAGEY ..

„ ARTHUR RICHARDSON ..

„ PYARE LAL ..

„ PEROZE P. MEHERJEE ..

three-fifths of the members of the Society present personally or by proxy at a meeting called for the purpose, or in default thereof by such Judge or Court of Law as may have jurisdiction in the matter.

8. A copy of the Rules and Regulations of the said Theosophical Society is filed with this Memorandum of Association, and the undersigned being seven of the members of the Governing Body of the said Society do hereby certify that such copy of such Rules and Regulations of the said Theosophical Society is correct.

As witness our several and respective hands, this . . . day of March 1905.

{ (Sd.) H. S. OLCOTT
 „ W. A. ENGLISH
 „ SUBRAMANIAM
 „ FRANCESCA E. ARUNDALE
 „ UPENDRANATH BASU
 „ ANNIE BESANT
 „ N. D. KHANDALVALA

RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF THE ASSOCIATION NAMED "THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY," ADYAR, MADRAS

1. The General Council shall be the Governing Body of The Theosophical Society. Not less than seven members of this Council shall be residents of India.

2. (a) The President, the Vice-President, the Treasurer, the Recording Secretary and the General Secretaries of the component National Societies (otherwise called Sections) shall *ex-officio* be members of the General Council. The terms of those members of the General Council who hold office *ex-officio* shall expire with the vacation of their qualifying office.

(b) The General Council shall include not less than 5 and not more than 10 Additional Members, among

whom all past Presidents while in good standing shall automatically have place. Other members shall on the nomination of the President be elected for a term of three years by vote of the General Council at its Annual Meeting, their names having been sent to the Members of the General Council at least three months before the Annual Meeting.

(c) Members retiring shall be eligible for re-election.

(d) The Recording Secretary shall be the Secretary of the General Council.

3. It shall be competent for the General Council to remove any of its members, or any officer of The Society excepting the President of The Theosophical Society and excepting the General

Secretaries of National Societies, by a three-fourths majority of its whole number of members, at a special meeting called for the purpose, of which at least three months' notice shall have been given, the quorum consisting, however, of not less than five members.

4. The General Council shall ordinarily meet once a year, at the time of the Annual Meeting or Convention of The Society; but a special meeting may be called at any time by the President, and shall be called at any time by him, or if not by him, by the Recording Secretary, on the written requisition of not less than one-fourth of the total number of members; but of such special meetings not less than three months' notice shall be given, and the notice shall contain a statement of the special business to be laid before the meeting.

5. At all meetings of the General Council, members thereof may vote in person, or in writing, or by proxy duly given to another member of the General Council for the particular meeting concerned. Except as aforesaid no member shall exercise more than one vote. No member shall be allowed to exercise more than 5 proxy votes.

Note: Meetings include Adjourned Meetings.

6. The quorum of an ordinary as well as of a special meeting of the General Council shall be five members. If there be no quorum, the meeting may be adjourned *sine die*, or the Chairman of the meeting may adjourn it to another date, of which three months' further notice shall be given, when the business of the meeting shall be disposed of, irrespective of whether there is a quorum present or not.

7. The President, or in his absence the Vice-President, of The Society shall preside at all meetings of The Theosophical Society or of the General Council, and

shall have a casting vote in the case of an equal division of the members voting on any question before the meeting.

8. In the absence of the President and the Vice-President, the meeting shall elect a chairman from among the members present at the meeting, and he shall have a casting vote in the case of a tie.

9. The term of office of the President shall be seven years.

10. Six months before the expiration of a President's term of office, or within three days of the office becoming vacant, the Recording Secretary shall call for nominations for the office of President from the members of the General Council, each of whom shall be entitled to make not more than three nominations. Such call to members outside India shall be by cable, confirmed within two days by air and ordinary mails. Each member of the General Council who is a General Secretary shall consult with the respective National Governing Council and shall make his nominations on its behalf. Nominations of any member or members in good standing, whose consent as laid down hereunder shall be necessary for the validity of the nomination, shall be sent to the Recording Secretary, so as to reach him within two months of the date of the call for nominations.

At the expiration of this period the Recording Secretary shall place all the nominations received along with the relevant papers before the Executive Committee at a meeting specially convened for the purpose. At such meeting the Executive Committee shall examine the nominations. All nominations for which the consent of the nominated member has not been filed in the office of the Recording Secretary within the period of two months just preceding shall be rejected as invalid. The rest shall be counted, and the names of those receiving the three highest numbers of nominations, (or any lesser number

of names, if less than three are nominated) together with any others who have been nominated by not less than half the members of the General Council, but after eliminating any who in the meantime have died or who have withdrawn their consent to nomination and subject only to the provisions of the next following paragraph, shall be those to be voted upon. The list made by the Executive Committee shall not be subject to challenge.

The Recording Secretary shall immediately in writing communicate all the names on the list to each nominee thereon (if the nominee is not at Adyar the communication shall be by telegraph or cable). In the event of any death or withdrawal the corresponding name shall be struck from the list.

On the tenth day following the meeting of the Executive Committee for the examination of nominations, the Recording Secretary shall communicate the list of nominees remaining to be voted upon, to the General Secretaries, and to Lodges and Fellows-at-large attached to the Headquarters at Adyar. Such communications to the General Secretaries outside India shall be by cable, confirmed within two days by air mail and ordinary mail, and to the others by air mail confirmed within two days by ordinary mail. Each General Secretary shall take the individual vote of each of the voter-members of his Section, that is, of members of the National Society on his rolls who are not in arrears of annual dues for more than one year at the close of the previous official year of the Section, and shall communicate the result to the Recording Secretary, who shall himself take the votes of the Lodges and Fellows-at-large attached to the Headquarters at Adyar, who are not in arrears of annual dues for more than one year at the close of the previous official year of The Society at Adyar.

If only one member is nominated, the vote so taken shall be on a "For" or "Against" ballot.

At the expiration of six months from the call for nominations by the Recording Secretary, the results of the voting shall be counted by him. The Executive Committee shall appoint two of its members as scrutineers. The nominee receiving the greatest number of votes shall be declared elected to the office of President.

If the voting results in the highest number of votes being given equally to two or more of the nominees, or if the voting upon the "For" or "Against" ballot results in the rejection of the one member receiving nomination, or if the death of any nominee occurs before the counting of the votes and the declaration of the result, the nomination and election procedure herein provided shall be repeated and the President then in office or the Vice-President, if he is temporarily filling such office, shall continue therein until a new President is elected.

11. (a) The President shall nominate the Vice-President, subject to confirmation by the General Council, and his term of Office shall continue till a new Vice-President has been nominated and his nomination confirmed by the General Council. It shall be his duty, among other things, to carry on the executive functions of the President in case the President is dead or where the Executive Committee finds that he is disabled by accident, serious illness or otherwise from performing the duties of the President.

(b) Notwithstanding anything herein contained the Vice-President doing the duties of the President shall continue to be the Vice-President of The Society until a new Vice-President has been nominated and his nomination confirmed by the General Council. In case of death, resignation or permanent disability of such Vice-President doing the duties of the

President, the Executive Committee shall appoint a Vice-President who shall hold Office until the new President shall have nominated a new Vice-President and his nomination be confirmed by the General Council.

12. The President shall appoint the Treasurer, the Recording Secretary and such subordinate officials as he may find necessary, which appointments shall be reported to the Executive Committee at its next following meeting, and shall continue to be valid unless rejected by a majority of votes of the whole number of members in the Executive Committee, voting in person or by proxy, at the said meeting, the newly appointed Treasurer or Recording Secretary not being present, nor counting as a member of the Executive Committee for purposes of such vote.

13. The Treasurer, Recording Secretary and subordinate officials being assistants to the President in his capacity as executive officer of the General Council, the President shall have the authority to remove any appointee of his own to such offices.

14. The General Council shall at each Annual Meeting appoint an Executive Committee for the ensuing year, of not less than seven and not more than ten members, of whom at least six shall be members of the General Council. The President, the Vice-President, the Treasurer, and the Recording Secretary shall be *ex-officio* members. Vacancies caused by death or resignation or otherwise may be filled by co-optation.

15. The Executive Committee shall meet at least once in every three months for the receipt and consideration of accounts and the despatch of any other business. A special meeting may be called by the President whenever he thinks fit, and such meeting shall be called by him, or if not by him, by the Recording Secretary, when he is required to do so, by not

less than three members of the Committee, who shall state to him in writing the business for which they wish the meeting to assemble.

16. At a meeting of the Executive Committee, three members shall constitute a quorum.

17. The Committee shall, in the absence of the President and Vice-President, elect a Chairman to preside over the meeting and in case of equality of votes the Chairman for the time being shall have a casting vote.

18. The President shall be the custodian of all the archives and records of The Society, and shall be the Executive Officer and shall conduct and direct the business of The Society in compliance with its rules; he shall be empowered to make temporary appointments and to fill provisionally all vacancies that occur in the offices of The Society, and shall have discretionary powers in all matters not specifically provided for in these Rules.

19. All subscriptions, donations and other moneys payable to the Association shall be received by the President, or the Treasurer, or the Recording Secretary, the receipt of either of whom in writing shall be sufficient discharge for the same.

20. The securities and uninvested funds of The Society shall be deposited in the State Bank of India, Madras, or such other Bank or Banks as the Executive Committee, T.S., shall select; and in countries outside of India, in such Banks as the President shall select. Cheques drawn against the funds shall be signed by any two of the following, the President, the Treasurer, the Recording Secretary and one other person appointed by the President for the purpose under Rule 12.

21. (a) Notwithstanding anything in these rules to the contrary the President may, touching the assets and affairs of The Society beyond India, at any time

and from time to time by a Power of Attorney appoint any persons to be the Attorneys of The Society for such period and subject to such conditions and for such purposes and with such authorities and powers as he may think fit, and he may if necessary affix the Seal of The Society thereto.

Without prejudice to the general powers conferred as aforesaid, the President may grant power and authority among others to sell, grant mortgage, lease or otherwise transfer the assets of The Society, movable or immovable, real or personal, and to receive subscriptions, donations, legacies, moneys and other property movable, or immovable, and to institute, continue, compromise, compound or refer to arbitration any actions, suits, or other proceedings, and to take and hold shares in any Company, and to vote at any meetings thereof, and to subdelegate all or any of his powers, and to give receipts and releases, and to sign, seal and deliver any instrument or document and have the same registered.

(b) The funds of The Society may be invested by the President, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, in Government or other Public securities, or in the purchase of immovable property or First Mortgages on such property.

(c) The Adyar Estate of The Society in Madras including The Society's original Headquarters and all other properties in Adyar since acquired by gift, purchase or otherwise, shall not at any time be disposed of by sale, gift, exchange, mortgage or otherwise; save that the President, if specially authorized by a resolution of the General Council, passed by a three-fourths vote of their members, voting in person, in writing or by proxy, may dispose of such outlying portions of the said Adyar Estate, as may be specified in such Resolutions.

(d) The President may, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, sell, mortgage or otherwise transfer any investment in Government or other Public securities, or any movable or immovable property of The Society other than those mentioned in Rule 21 (c).

22. (a) All deeds whereby immovable properties belonging to The Society are transferred or otherwise dealt with shall have affixed to them the Seal of The Society with the signature of the President and of the Recording Secretary. In case of the absence of the President or where the Executive Committee finds that he is too ill to act, it may appoint two of its members to sign in place of the President.

(b) All transfers of movable property, if in writing, shall bear the signature of the President and of the Recording Secretary but need not have affixed to them the Seal of The Society. In case of the absence of the President or where the Executive Committee finds that he is too ill to act, it may appoint two of its members to sign in place of the President.

Note: The procedure detailed in this Rule is without prejudice to the powers conferred under Rule 21 (a).

23. The Society may sue and be sued in the name of the President.

24. The Recording Secretary may, with the authority of the President, or of the two substitutes appointed according to Rule 22, affix the Seal of The Society on all instruments requiring to be sealed, and all such instruments shall be signed by the President or by the two substitutes above mentioned and the Recording Secretary.

25. On the death or resignation of the President, the Recording Secretary shall at once make arrangements for the election of a new President, in accordance with Rule 10, and until such new President is elected the Vice-President shall perform the duties of President.

HEADQUARTERS

26. Headquarters of The Society are established at Adyar, Madras, and are outside the jurisdiction of the Indian Section.

27. The President shall have full power and discretion to permit to any person the use of any portion or premises in the Adyar Estate for occupation and residence, on such terms as the President may lay down, or to refuse permission so to occupy or reside. Any person occupying or residing under the permission granted by the President shall, on a fortnight's notice given by or on behalf of the President, unconditionally quit the premises before the expiry of that period.

ORGANIZATION

28. Every person of ten full years of age, without distinction of race, creed, sex, caste or colour, shall be eligible for membership in The Society, but those under the age of majority in their respective countries shall be admitted to membership only with the written consent of parent or guardian.

29. Admission to membership may be obtained through the President of a Lodge, the General Secretary of a National Society, or through the Recording Secretary; and a Diploma of membership shall be issued to the Fellow, bearing the signature of the President, and countersigned by the General Secretary, where the applicant resides within the territory of a National Society, or countersigned by the Recording Secretary, if admission to membership has been obtained through the Recording Secretary.

30. Lodges and Fellows, whether unattached or attached to a Lodge, residing within the territory of a National Society, must belong to that National Society, unless coming under Rule 31.

Provided that with the sanction of the President a member who belongs to one National Society may while retaining his membership of that National Society belong to another National Society, but he shall not be allowed to cast more than one vote in matters relating to The Theosophical Society.

31. (a) When an individual Fellow in good standing, for any serious and weighty reason, sufficient in the opinion of the President to justify such action, is desirous of leaving the National Society to which he belongs, but is not desirous of leaving The Theosophical Society, such individual Fellow may become directly attached to Headquarters, Adyar, severing all connection with the National Society. Such application must be made through the General Secretary of the National Society concerned who shall be under obligation duly to forward such application to the President as expeditiously as possible. This shall equally apply in the case of the admission of any new member.

(b) A Fellow of The Theosophical Society in good standing who is desirous of leaving the National Society to which he or she belongs or ought to belong under Rule 30 and of joining another National Society, may be permitted by the President to do so provided such Fellow presents reason sufficient in the opinion of the President to justify such action, and provided further that the application for transfer is submitted with the approval of the General Secretaries of both National Societies concerned.

This rule shall apply equally in the case of the admission of a new member.

(c) When a Lodge, for any serious and weighty reason, sufficient in the opinion of the President to justify such action, is desirous of leaving the National Society to which it belongs, but is not desirous of leaving The Theosophical Society, such Lodge may become directly attached to

Headquarters, Adyar, severing all connection with the National Society. Such application must be made through the General Secretary of the National Society concerned who shall be under obligation duly to forward such application to the President as expeditiously as possible.

Before any Lodge shall have the right to apply to be directly attached to Headquarters, Adyar, it shall have mailed to each of its members individually a notice that such application is about to be considered. Such notice must be mailed not less than two weeks before the meeting at which such consideration is to take place, and voting on the application shall be deferred until two months after that meeting. If at such first meeting, or any succeeding meeting pursuant thereto, it is decided to bring the application to a vote as herein provided, a full report of the reasons for such action shall at once be sent to the General Secretary of the National Society concerned.

Any application for separation from the National Society to which a Lodge belongs shall be ineffective unless two-thirds of the members of the Lodge vote in favour thereof.

(d) In the event of any undue delay in the transmission of any application under any of the foregoing provisions of this Rule, a correct copy of such application (duly signed or otherwise authenticated) may be transmitted directly to the President by the Fellow or Lodge concerned, and the President may act on such copy if in his absolute discretion it appears to him to be fit or proper that he should so act. Any action so taken by the President shall be as valid and effectual, for all purposes, as if it had been taken on the original application submitted for transmission to the President. The Fellow or Lodge, when forwarding such copy to the President directly, shall state the full

grounds and reasons for the direct transmission.

32. Lodges or Fellows-at-large, in countries where no National Society exists, must apply for their Charters or Diplomas directly to the Recording Secretary, and may not, without the sanction of the President, belong to National Societies within the territorial limits of which they are not situated or resident.

33. Any seven Fellows may apply to be chartered as a Lodge. In a country where no National Society exists the application must be forwarded to the President of The Society through the Recording Secretary.

34. The President shall have authority to grant or refuse applications for Charters, which, if issued, must bear his signature and that of the Recording Secretary, and the Seal of The Society, and be recorded at the Headquarters of The Society.

35. (a) A National Society may be formed by the President, upon the application of seven or more chartered Lodges.

(b) The President shall have authority at his discretion to issue (and to cancel) certificates of Federation to any national group of Lodges not sufficient in number or otherwise unable to form or to maintain a National Society, as defined in these Rules, or where in his judgment territorial division or other causes have made such Federation necessary or desirable. Any such Federation may elect an Organizing Secretary or other executive officer or officers for the purpose of further organization and the transaction of Federation business.

A Federation shall not appoint a General Secretary (as the term is used in these Rules) nor be represented on the General Council. In all other respects the Rules applicable to National Societies and to General Secretaries shall apply to Federations and to their chief executives.

(c) The President shall have authority at his discretion to appoint and to withdraw appointments of Presidential Agents to act under his instructions for the purposes of conducting the business and administration of The Society in any place and in any respect not inconsistent with these Rules. Each such appointment and the power delegated to each such Agent shall be evidenced by a Letter of Appointment referring to this Rule.

36. All Charters of National Societies or Lodges and all Diplomas of membership derive their authority from the President, acting as Executive Officer of the General Council of The Society, and may be cancelled by the same authority.

37. Each Lodge and National Society shall have the power to make its own Rules which shall not be incompatible with the Rules of the National Society to which the Lodge belongs or with the Rules of The Theosophical Society.

All Rules of Lodges and National Societies and amendments thereto shall be submitted for approval within thirty days of their adoption as follows: In the case of a Lodge belonging to a National Society, all such Rules and amendments shall be submitted to the General Secretary of that National Society; in the case of a National Society or of a Lodge not situated within the territory of a National Society or of a Lodge directly attached to Adyar under Rule 31 (c) all such Rules or amendments thereto shall be submitted directly to the President.

All Rules and amendments shall be put into force if approval has not been refused within ninety days of acknowledgment of their receipt.

If by a change made in a Rule of The Theosophical Society, any Rule of a National Society, which at its inception was not incompatible with the Rules of The Theosophical Society, ceases to be compatible, such a Rule of the National

Society shall cease to be valid and shall be amended so as to be in consonance with the Rules of The Theosophical Society.

If by a change made in a Rule of a National Society, any Rule of a Lodge, which at its inception was not incompatible with the Rules of the National Society, ceases to be compatible, such a Rule of the Lodge shall cease to be valid and shall be amended so as to be in consonance with the Rules of the National Society.

38. Every National Society must appoint a General Secretary, who shall be the channel of official communication between the General Council and the National Society.

39. The General Secretary of each National Society shall forward to the President, annually, not later than the first day of November, a report of the year's work of his Society, and at any time furnish any further information the President or General Council may desire.

40. National Societies hitherto known as Sections, which have been incorporated under the name of "The . . . Section of The T.S." before the year 1908, may retain that name in their respective countries, in order not to interfere with the incorporation already existing, but shall be included under the name of National Societies, for all purposes in these Rules and Regulations.

FINANCE

41. (a) The fees payable to the General Treasury by Lodges not comprised within the limits of any National Society are as follows: for Charter, £1; for each Diploma of Membership 5s.; for the Annual Subscription of each Fellow, 5s.; but in the case of Lodges comprised within the jurisdiction of a National Society, the Annual Subscription of each Fellow shall be the amount prescribed for Annual Subscription

by the by-laws or other regulations of the National Society within which the Lodge exists; or equivalents.

(b) New members joining otherwise than at the beginning of the year shall at the time of admission pay their annual subscription *pro rata* for the remaining period of the fiscal year at the rate of £0-1-3 per quarter.

42. Fellows-at-large, resident within the territory of a National Society under the Provision of Rule 31 (a) shall pay to the General Treasury as Entrance Fee and as Annual Subscription the amounts prescribed by the by-laws or other regulation of such National Society, but not less than 5s. and £1 respectively.

Fellows-at-large, not resident within the territory of a National Society, shall pay to the General Treasury an Entrance Fee of 5s. and an Annual Subscription of £1.

43. (a) Each National Society shall pay into the General Treasury ten per cent of the total amount received for its own National dues, and shall remit the same to the Treasurer at Adyar on or before the first day of September of the current year, and the financial year of The Society shall close on 30th September.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of Rule 41 (a) and Rule 42, the President at his discretion may authorize Presidential Agents to collect dues in territories to which they have been appointed and to remit in accordance with Rule 43 (a).

44. In the event of the cancellation of any Charter under Rule 36, or the dissolution of any National Society or of a Lodge, the constituent Charter of the National Society or of the Lodge, granted by the President, shall *ipso facto*, become forfeited or lapsed, and all property, real or personal, including Charters, Diplomas, Seal, Records and other papers belonging to or in the custody of such National Society or Lodge shall vest as follows:

(a) in The Society, in the case of a National Society or of a Lodge not within the territory of a National Society or of a Lodge coming under Rule 31 (c), (except where the law of the country where the National Society or Lodge is situated prohibits such vesting, in which case the property shall vest as hereinafter provided), and delivery shall be made to the President, or to his nominee on his behalf.

(b) in the National Society in which the Lodge is situated, in the case of a Lodge within the territory of a National Society, said Lodge not coming under Rule 31 (c), and delivery shall be made to the General Secretary of the said National Society.

No National Society or Lodge whose Charter shall have become forfeited or lapsed shall continue to use the name, motto, or seal of The Society except for the purpose of vesting in The Society or in the National Society as the case may be the real and personal property of such National Society or Lodge.

Provided, nevertheless, that the President shall have power to revive the Charter of the National Society or the Lodge, as the case may be, whose Charter shall have become so forfeited or lapsed, and to transfer the said Charter to other Lodges being not less than seven in number, or to other Fellows being not less than seven in number, as the case may be, or to such other nominees of his as in his judgment shall seem best for the interests of The Society.

In cases under (a) above, where such vesting in The Society is prohibited by the law of the country in which is situated the National Society or the Lodge whose Charter has become forfeited or lapsed as aforesaid, the property shall vest in a local Trustee or Trustees appointed by the President.

To effect any transfer of property, to which The Society may become entitled

under this Rule, it shall be lawful for the President to appoint an agent or nominee for the purpose of executing any necessary document or documents, or for taking any steps necessary effectually to transfer the said property to The Society.

45. The financial accounts of The Society shall be audited annually by qualified Auditors who shall be appointed by the General Council at each Annual Meeting for the ensuing year.

MEETINGS

46. The Annual General Meeting or Convention of The Society shall be held in India in the month of December, at such place as shall be determined by the Executive Committee in June of each year. Lodges desirous of inviting the Convention and able to make due arrangements for its accommodation, shall send the invitation in March of the current year, with particulars of the arrangements they propose to make.

47. At least once in every seven years a World Congress of The Theosophical

Society may be held out of India, at a place and date to be fixed by the General Council, but so as not to interfere with the Annual Convention in India.

48. The President shall have the power to convene special meetings of The Society at his discretion.

REVISION

49. The General Council, of their own motion or on the motion of the Executive Committee and after at least three months' notice has been given to each member of said Council, may, by a three-fourths vote of those members who vote in person, in writing, or by proxy, make, alter or repeal the Rules and Regulations of The Society, in such manner as it may deem expedient.

50. The General Council may frame by-laws not inconsistent with these Rules and Regulations and may add to, alter, or repeal such by-laws, consistently with the said Rules and Regulations, as it may deem expedient.

DIRECTORY FOR 1957

Ex-Officio Members of General Council

President: MR. N. SRI RAM

Vice-President: MR. SIDNEY A. COOK

Recording Secretary: MISS EMMA HUNT

Treasurer: MR. EDWIN N. LORD

General Secretaries and Presidential Agents and Organizing Secretaries

Date of formation	Name of Section	General Secretary	Address
1886	United States	... Mr. James S. Perkins	... P.O. Box 270, Wheaton, Illinois
1888	England	... Mrs. A. L. Berry	... 50 Gloucester Place, London, W.1
1891	India	... Sri Rohit Mehta	... Theosophical Society, Varanasi 1
1895	Australia	... Mr. J. L. Davidge	... 29 Bligh Street, Sydney, N.S.W.
1895	Sweden	... Herr Gösta Lindström	... Östermalmsgatan 12, Stockholm
1896	New Zealand	... Miss Sandra Chase	... 10 Belvedere St., Epsom, Auckland, S.E.3
1897	Netherlands	... Mr. B. Wouters	... Amsteldijk 76, Amsterdam Z
1899	France	... Monsieur Francis Brunel	... 4 Square Rapp, Paris VII
1902	Italy	... Dr. Giuseppe Filipponio	... Corso Trieste 88, Rome
1902	Germany	... Direktor Martin Boyken	... Hagenau 15, Hamburg 23
1905	Cuba	... Señor Armando Alfonso Ledón.	... P.O. Box 365, Habana
1907	Hungary	...	...
1907	Finland	... Miss Signe Rosvall	... Vironkatu 7C, Helsinki
1908	Russia	...	...
1909	Czechoslovakia	...	...
1909	Southern Africa	... Mr. I. G. Mitford-Barberton	... P. O. Box 2284, Cape Town
1910	Scotland	... Mrs. Jean Allan	... 17 Queen's Crescent, Glasgow, C.4
1910	Switzerland	... Madame Claire Wyss	... Bruderholzstrasse 88, Basle
1911	Belgium	... Monsieur Th. Chapellier	... 334 Rue Vanderkindere, Uccle-Bruxelles
1912	Indonesia	... Mr. Soemardjo	... Blavatskypark 5, Merdeka-Barat 17, Djakarta
1912	Burma	... U Po Lat	... No. 102, 49th Street, Rangoon
1912	Austria	... Herr F. Schleifer	... Paracelsusgasse 4, T. 6, Vienna III/40
1913	Norway	... Herr Erling Havrevold	... Bjornslettve. 2b, Lilleaker, Oslo
1918	Egypt *	... Mr. Zaki Awad	... (President, "Hikmet El Kadima" Lodge), 18 Emad El Din Street, Cairo
1918	Denmark	... Herr J. H. Möller	... Strandvejen 130a, Aarhus
1919	Ireland	... Mrs. Evelyn O. Hornidge	... 31 Pembroke Road, Dublin
1919	Mexico	... Señor Adolfo de la Peña Gil	... Iturbide 28, Mexico D. F.
1919	Canada	... Lt.-Col. E. L. Thomson, D.S.O.	... 52 Isabella Street, Toronto 5, Ont.
1920	Argentina	... Señor Enrique O. Gossweiler	... Casilla Correo No. 238, Rosario (Pcia. Santa Fe)
1920	Chile	... Señor Ricardo Michell A.-P.	... Casilla 3603, Santiago
1920	Brazil	... Tenente Armando Sales	... Rua Anita Garibaldi 29, 11º andar, Sao Paulo
1920	Bulgaria	...	...
1921	Iceland	... Mr. Sigvaldi Hjálmarsson	... Ingolfsstr. 22, Reykjavik
1921	Spain	...	...

* No Section; Lodge only.

Date of formation	Name of Section	General Secretary	Address
1921	Portugal	... Mr. Felix Bermudes	... Rua Passos Manoel 20, Lisbon
1922	Wales	... Miss E. Claudia Owen	... 10 Park Place, Cardiff
1923	Poland	... ..	... ..
1925	Uruguay	... Señor Mario Radaelli	... Palacio Diaz, 18 de Julio 1333, Montevideo
1925	Puerto Rico	... Señora Esperanza C. Hopgood.	Box 8774, Fernandez Juncos, Santurce
1925	Rumania	... ..	... ..
1925	Yugoslavia	... ..	... ..
1926	Ceylon	... Mr. N. K. Choksy, Q.C.	... Roshanara, 20 Clifford Road, Green Path, Colpetty, Colombo 3
1928	Greece	... Monsieur Timos Vratsanos	... Patission 204, Athens (8)
1929	Central America	... Señor Miguel Monge Echandi	P.O. Box 797, San José, Costa Rica
1929	Paraguay	... ..	... ..
1929	Peru	... ..	... ..
1933	Philippines	... Dr. Benito F. Reyes	... P. Florentino Corner Iba Streets, Quezon City
1937	Colombia	... Señorita Corina Martínez Sanders	... Apartado Postal 539, Bogotá
1947	East Africa	... Mr. Vallabhadas H. Kapadia	... P.O. Box 354, Zanzibar
1948	Pakistan *	... Mrs. Gool K. Minwalla	... Noonan Road, Karachi 3
1948	Malaya and Singapore †	... Dr. C. H. Yeang	... 88 China St., Penang
1949	Northern Ireland †	... Dr. Hugh Shearman	... 18 Brookhill Ave., Belfast
1950	State of Israel *	... Mr. Hans Zeuger	... P.O. Box 1264, Jerusalem
1951	Japan	... ..	... ..
1952	Viet-Nam	... Mr. Pham-Ngoc-Da	... Directeur de l'Ecole des Filles, Chaudoc, Sud Viet-Nam
1953	Venezuela	... Señor Pablo Bonilla T.	... Apartado 2907, Caracas
1956	West Africa †	... Mr. K. Brakatu Ateko	... P.O. Box 720, Accra, Ghana

Additional Members of the General Council

MR. R. M. ALPAIWALLA, 179 Lamington Cross Road, Bombay 7 (for 1956, 1957 and 1958).

MR. J. E. VAN DISSEL, Dirk Boutsiaan 18, Eindhoven, Holland (for 1957, 1958 and 1959).

DR. G. SRINIVASA MURTI, The Theosophical Society, Adyar, Madras 20 (for 1956, 1957 and 1958).

MR. H. S. L. POLAK, 49 Earls Ave., The Leas, Folkestone, England (for 1956, 1957 and 1958).

DR. HUGH SHEARMAN, 36 Cliftonville Road, Belfast, United Kingdom (for 1957, 1958 and 1959).

SRIMATI RUKMINI DEVI ARUNDALE, The Theosophical Society, Adyar, Madras 20 (for 1955, 1956 and 1957).

MISS ANN KERR, Assistant Recording Secretary, The Theosophical Society, Adyar, Madras 20 (for 1957, 1958 and 1959).

MR. GEOFFREY HODSON, The Theosophical Society, 10 Belvedere St., Epsom, Auckland, New Zealand (for 1956, 1957 and 1958).

MR. C. R. GROVES, 68 Burlington Avenue, Kew Gardens, Surrey, England (for 1957, 1958 and 1959).

* Presidential Agency }
 † Federation } Presidential Agents and Organizing Secretaries are not members of the General Council.

MINUTES

Of Meeting of the General Council of the Theosophical Society, held in the President's house at Adyar, on Tuesday, 1st January, 1957, at 9.00 a.m.

PRESENT:

Mr. N. Sri Ram	..	President (in the Chair). <i>Proxy for the General Secretaries of the Theosophical Society in England, Finland, France and Scotland.</i>
Miss Emma Hunt	..	<i>Recording Secretary, and Proxy for the General Secretaries of the Theosophical Society in Australia and Ceylon.</i>
Mr. Edwin N. Lord	..	<i>Treasurer.</i>
Mr. Rohit Mehta	..	<i>General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in India, and Proxy for the General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Burma.</i>
Miss Ann Kerr	..	<i>Additional Member, and Proxy for the General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in America.</i>
Mr. H. S. L. Polak	..	<i>Additional Member.</i>
Srimati Rukmini Devi	..	<i>Additional Member, and Proxy for the General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Cuba and for Dr. G. Srinivasa Murthi, Additional Member.</i>

1. *Confirmation of Minutes.*—The Minutes of the Meeting of 31st December, 1955, having been circulated to the Members of the General Council, were taken as read and were adopted and signed.

2. *Matters arising out of the Minutes:*

(a) *Amendment to Rule 10 of the Rules and Regulations of the Theosophical Society.*—To receive the Report of the Committee appointed by the General Council. The following Report, addressed to the President, was submitted by the Committee:

Dear Brother:

At the Meeting of the General Council of the Theosophical Society held in December 1953 at Adyar a Committee was appointed to make recommendations regarding the revision of Rule 10 of the International Constitution. I am submitting this report to you on behalf of that Committee.

As members of the Committee reside in different countries much of the work had to be done by correspondence, it being difficult to meet for consultation. This difficulty has been the main cause of delay in submitting this report.

The Committee has now met on two occasions in December 1956 and after careful consideration of all suggestions for revision of Rule 10, as summarized in the Recording Secretary's letter of 20th April 1956 to members of the General Council, and

replies received, the Committee recommends the following suggestion proposed by the Recording Secretary:

"In order to satisfy every member of the General Council who has made proposals in regard to the number of nominees who should be on the ballot paper when voting takes place for a President, the following four amendments be put forward, *pro forma*, to be voted upon:

1. That para 2 of Rule 10 remain as at present in regard to the number to be on the ballot paper, but be changed in such a way as to ensure that if any one or more of the three having the highest number of nominations does not wish to go on the ballot, the next highest on the list shall be substituted.

2. That the Rule be changed to read 'five' instead of 'three'.

3. That the Rule be changed to read 'seven' instead of 'three'.

4. That paragraph two of the Rule be deleted and the names of all the nominees appear on the ballot paper."

The Committee further suggests to the General Council that the amendment receiving the highest number of votes be then put forward as a Resolution to be voted upon. According to the International Constitution this Resolution when submitted for final vote will need three-fourths vote of those members who vote in person, in writing or by proxy for being accepted for the purposes of revision of that part of Rule 10 which deals with the number of nominees whose names should go on the ballot paper.

The Committee, while recommending to the General Council that all the four above-mentioned amendments should be sent *pro forma* to the members of the General Council to be voted upon by them, desires to point out that it would be inadvisable to adopt a method of election which would result, through a wide scattering of votes, in a President being elected on a minority vote of the general membership of the Society. The President elected on a minority vote of the Society will become only a figurehead unable to freely initiate policies and principles for the well-being of the Society. So far, every President has commanded the confidence of the whole Society, or practically the whole Society. If, however, the President is elected by a minority vote he will tend to be a party-man, which, in an organization standing for a quality of universality, would do incalculable harm.

We trust that the members of the General Council will bear this fact in mind when exercising their votes on the above-mentioned amendments so that a wide scattering of votes may be avoided in the method of election that is finally adopted to elect a President of the Theosophical Society.

The Committee has received many suggestions as to revision of Rule 10 on such points as clarification in regard to 'eligibility to vote,' responsibility regarding 'written consent of nominee,' etc., etc. The Committee recommends that in order to make a clear issue on the major point of the number of nominees to be on the ballot paper, such suggestions be held over until the following year.

EMMA HUNT,
Recording Secretary.

18th December 1956.

In his comments on the Report the President said:

"While Colonel Olcott was still President and up to the year 1931 (two years before Dr. Besant's death), the Rule, as it stood, required that he who is elected as President must have received not less than two-thirds of the votes cast by the members. So much importance was attached to the confidence which the members should have in the President. Dr. Besant was elected several times with such a large majority. The change in 1931 was made because it was thought that there might be no one after her able to command such a majority. The Rule, as changed then, therefore, required only that the candidate who receives the largest number of votes should be declared elected, and this is the present Rule. It was brought in and adopted after much consideration. It sought to embody a method which would combine voting by all the members (for one or other of a number of nominees), with a preliminary considered choice of the nominees by a very representative and responsible body, namely the General Secretaries (who are required to consult their national councils) and the other members of the General Council.

The Rule, as it stands, also embodies the important principle that a candidate for the Presidentship should not be one who is *putting himself forward*, as in ordinary political elections, but one who is called upon by the General Council to serve the Society as President, if the nomination is approved by the votes of the members generally.

The important thing to ensure, whatever may be the method of election, is that it should result in the election of a President who would command the confidence of the *entire* Society, as indicated by a good proportion of the votes of the members, or at least a very good proportion of the votes cast by the members. If we are to have a President elected by, say, one-fourth or one-fifth of the votes cast, on account of the total number of votes becoming split amongst a number of nominees, the person who is elected would be either a party-man or just an administrative head, as pointed out by the Rule 10 Committee. Such procedure may seem democratic, but the result would be undemocratic; there would not be that relationship between the President and the members everywhere which should exist in such a Society as ours. It is not improbable, when the votes are scattered, that a nominee who is supported by a large number of votes in a big Section may get elected with very little support from other Sections. He would then be more of a National representative than a truly International head. The condition that there should be a number of nominations by members of the General Council, representing different Sections, was intended to obviate this.

The President of this Society will be able to maintain the solidarity of the Society only if he can in some measure infuse into it a spirit to which all the members all over the world are able to respond. Whatever is the method which will bring about this happy and satisfactory result will enable the Society to go forward as a whole."

The General Council, in accepting the Report, directed that in accordance with the suggestion of the Committee, the four amendments listed therein should be sent out *pro forma* early in 1957 to be voted upon, and that the Committee's Report should go out with the voting paper.

The Council further directed that the amendment receiving the highest number of votes be then put forward *pro forma* as a Resolution to be voted upon in accordance with the Rules of the Society.

(b) *The Theosophical Society in France*.—The President reported that there were no further developments of the situation in that Section.

(c) *The Theosophical Society in Peru*.—The President reported that on his visit to Peru in July 1956 he had found the situation in the Peruvian Section of such a nature as to require him to withdraw its Charter. He had addressed a letter, dated the 9th August 1956, to the Lodges and Members, informing them of the temporary suspension of the Section and the withdrawal of the Charter. Three Lodges whose members were in good standing have in the meantime been directly affiliated to Adyar. They are Lodges "H. P. B.," "Evolucion" and "Paz y Amor". The other Lodges whose membership was uncertain have been declared to be non-existent at present.

The President has appointed Señor Jorge Torres Ugarriza to be the custodian of the records and properties of the Section and a list or inventory of the properties is to be sent to Adyar.

3. *Amendment to Rule 20 of the Rules and Regulations of the Theosophical Society, as recommended by the General Council at its meeting held on 31st December 1955*.—The amendment to Rule 20 having obtained the required majority of votes was declared adopted as follows:

Rule 20 (Alterations shown in italics):

"The securities and uninvested funds of the Society shall be deposited in the *State Bank of India*, Madras, or such other Bank or Banks as the Executive Committee, T. S., shall select. Cheques drawn against the funds shall be signed by any two of the following: the President, the Treasurer, the Recording Secretary and one other person appointed by the President for the purpose under Rule 12."

In favour	..	34
Against	..	Nil

4. *To consider proposal received from Mr. J. L. Davidge, General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Australia, regarding amendment to Rule 28 of the Rules and Regulations of the Theosophical Society and providing an additional Rule 28(a)*.—Mr. J. L. Davidge, the General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Australia, had proposed the following amendment and addition to the International Rules and Regulations:

Present Rule 28:

"Every person of ten full years of age, without distinction of race, creed, sex, caste or colour, shall be eligible for membership in The Society, but those under the age of majority in their respective countries shall be admitted to membership only with the written consent of parent or guardian."

Proposed Amendment (additions shown in italics):

"Every person of ten full years of age, without distinction of race, creed, sex, caste or colour, shall be eligible for membership of The Society, but those under the age of majority in their respective countries shall be admitted to membership only with the written consent of parent or guardian *unless the succeeding clause applies*."

Proposed New Additional Rule:

"28(a). *The Executive Committee upon a written request from any National Society may, in respect of that National Society, if it sees fit, determine an age less than that of majority of the particular country at which applicants for membership who are below the age of majority can be admitted to membership without the consent of parent or guardian.*"

Reasons for Revision: [Given by Mr. J. L. Davidge].

"This is similar to a previous submission [see General Council Agenda 1954 and Minutes of General Council Meeting, 25th December 1954] but with the important difference that any authority given to a particular Section would be to admit minors UNDER SOME SPECIFIED AGE (e.g., 18) without parents' consent whereas the previous suggestion would have given authority (although this was not intended) for the admission of minors of 10 years of age without parents' consent.

"We would also make the following points:

(1) We do not seek a change applying to any other country as we feel each country is the best judge of its own conditions. If this rule were passed and if the Australian Section applied for permission to admit minors at 18 without parents' consent, and were granted such permission, then the present general rule would still apply to all other countries unless they made specific application for a variation in terms of the new rule.

(2) We would point out that a young person of 18 who can support himself is, in Australia, legally entitled to leave home, and quite a number do. If he is competent to keep himself, surely he is competent to make his own decision about joining the Theosophical Society.

(3) There are no legal difficulties in admitting minors without parents' consent in Australia. The worst that could happen is that we might not be able to take them to court to make them pay their dues (which we are not in the habit of doing in respect of any member). We have legal opinion to support this contention.

(4) We feel that Lodge Committees can adequately deal with any case in which admitting a minor would CAUSE trouble in a family and that they would naturally suggest such a person did not join. The present rule debars young people who have already made a break with their family from joining. No useful purpose is served in refusing membership in this case.

(5) The main point at issue is not, however, whether minors should be admitted against their parents' wishes but whether they should be asked for their parents' consent. When the average young person in Australia reaches the age of 18 years he uses much personal initiative in the ordering of his affairs. We think that the seeking of parental consent for joining the Theosophical Society, at this age of the applicant, is not in keeping with the average family relationships as they exist in this country."

The proposed changes were circulated to the members of the General Council. There was some support along the proposed line but there were also several strong objections.

The Council gave careful consideration to the whole question in the light of views expressed. It was finally agreed that it was inadvisable to place the responsibilities on a President or an Executive Committee as such changes in the Rule as proposed would entail.

The Council decided to put forward a Resolution to be voted upon to change the Rule to read:

Rule 28 (Alteration shown in italics):

“ Every person of ten full years of age, without distinction of race, creed, sex, caste or colour, shall be eligible for membership in The Society, but those under the age of *eighteen* shall be admitted to membership only with the written consent of parent or guardian.”

5. *Election of four (4) Additional Members of the General Council for the years 1957, 1958 and 1959.*—The under-mentioned members were declared duly elected as Additional Members of the General Council for a period of three years (1957, 1958 and 1959). The results of the voting were as follows:

		No. of Votes	
		In favour	Against
Mr. C. R. Groves	..	37	—
Mr. J. E. van Dissel	..	36	—
Miss Ann Kerr	..	36	—
Dr. Hugh Shearman	..	36	—

6. *The Treasurer's Report for 1955-56.*—The audited financial statements of the Society for the official year ended 30th September, 1956, presented by the Hon. Treasurer with his report and recommended for adoption by the Executive Committee, were given consideration and approved.

7. *The Budget for 1956-1957.*—The Budget estimates for the year ending 30th September, 1957, passed by the Executive Committee at a meeting held on 31st December, 1956, were adopted as detailed:—

THE T.S. HEADQUARTERS, ADYAR, BUDGET FOR 1956-57

EXPENSE	Budget for 1955-'56	Actuals for 1955-'56	Budget for 1956-'57	INCOME	Budget for 1955-'56	Actuals for 1955-'56	Budget for 1956-'57
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Establishment—Salaries and Wages ...	32,000	31,569	35,500	Rent ...	52,000	50,231	50,000
Repairs and Renewals ...	30,000	38,051	30,000	Fees and Dues ...	24,000	28,945	25,000
Garden Expenses ...	44,290	36,369	40,840	Conservancy Charges ...	1,400	1,319	1,400
Light and Water ...	4,000	3,489	3,500	Garden Income ...	33,950	33,703	34,840
Miscellaneous ...	7,000	7,133	7,000	Casuarina ...	2,000	3,784	4,000
Postages, Telegrams and Telephone ...	3,000	2,555	3,000	Administration Charges ...	7,130	7,130	7,130
Printing and Stationery ...	3,500	3,844	3,500	Interest (Gross) ...	40,000	40,069	40,000
Publications to General Secretaries ...	800	642	700	Special Departments:			
Sanitation Expenses ...	4,900	5,081	5,000	Engineering Department ...	1,13,480	1,47,846	1,25,880
Taxes ...	14,500	13,868	14,000	Vasanta Press ...	1,41,690	1,29,315	1,38,000
Interest on Funds and Accounts ...	10,000	9,748	10,000	Laundry ...	5,200	5,879	6,000
Convention ...	3,000	4,715	4,500	Donations		48,644	
Watch and Ward ...	13,800	11,688	13,800	Deficit	52,910	9,923	64,370
Contributions:							
Adyar Library ...	5,000	5,000	5,000				
Dispensary ...	3,500	4,012	3,500				
President's Travelling Fund ...	6,600	6,600	6,600				
Museum and Archives ...	100	82	100				
The School of the Wisdom ...	5,000	5,000	5,000				
Bhojanasala ...	900	3,298	1,000				
Leadbeater Chambers ...	2,000	1,956	2,000				
Depreciation ...	17,800	18,463	18,500				
Special Departments:							
Engineering Department ...	1,13,480	1,45,720	1,25,880				
Vasanta Press ...	1,41,690	1,40,385	1,50,000				
Laundry ...	6,900	7,520	7,700				
	4,73,760	5,06,788	4,96,620		4,73,760	5,06,788	4,96,620

For The Theosophical Society,
EDWIN N. LORD,
Hon'y. Treasurer.

8. *The Appointment of Auditors for 1956-57.*—It was resolved that Messrs. V. Soundararajan & Co., Registered Accountants, be re-appointed Auditors for the year 1956-57 on the same remuneration and on the same terms and conditions as in the previous year.

9. *Appointment of the Executive Committee for 1957.*—The following members were appointed:

President	} <i>Ex-Officio</i>
Vice-President	
Recording Secretary	
Treasurer	
Mrs. Radha S. Burnier	
Miss Ann Kerr	
Mr. N. Naganathan	
Mr. K. S. Rajagopalan	
Srimati Rukmini Devi	
Mr. S. G. Venkataramanan	

10. *Any other Business:*

(a) *Award of the Subba Row Medal.*—The President proposed that the Subba Row Medal be given to Miss Clara Codd for her contribution to Theosophical literature.

The Council approved this proposal.

(b) *Letter from Dr. Giuseppe Gasco, Italy.*—In a letter addressed to the President and to Members of the General Council, Dr. Giuseppe Gasco, former General Secretary of the Italian Section of the Theosophical Society, requested that owing to certain disharmonies in the Italian Section the Esoteric School in Italy be closed. The letter is signed by Dr. Gasco and by the recently elected General Secretary, Dr. Giuseppe Filipponio.

The General Council agreed with the views of the President that the Esoteric School is not constitutionally and legally a part of the Theosophical Society. It is a separately registered body under the law of India and is a strictly private organization. The Council is satisfied that the Esoteric School does not in any way interfere in the affairs of the Theosophical Society, there have been no complaints from any other Section, and in any case it is quite out of order for the General Council either to take the question of its suspension in Italy into consideration or to make any recommendation to that effect to a separate and independent body such as the Esoteric School or to the effect that the Esoteric School should be incorporated into the Theosophical Society as desired in the aforesaid letter.

(c) *Rehabilitation and War Distress Relief.*—The following cable from Mr. J. E. van Dissel, General Secretary of the European Federation, received by the President, was placed before the Council:

“Situation Eastern European countries may require soon carrying out Jinarajadasa’s plan establish rehabilitation and war distress relief funds. European Federation wants be prepared for both rehabilitation work and support individual members. Ask President take initiative sending out world appeal.”

The Council authorized the President to take whatever action he thought necessary. It was of the view that Mr. van Dissel might himself draft an appeal to members

and Sections on behalf of the European Federation and send it to the President for consideration.

(d) *Resolution from Mrs. A. L. Berry, General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in England, on behalf of her Executive Committee.*—The Resolution was as follows:

"That the General Council take immediate steps to provide the President with a travelling courier/secretary to accompany him on his tours, to make all arrangements *re* tickets, luggage, hospitality, and all other details incidental to travelling and to deal with correspondence *en route*. The cost of such a courier/secretary's salary, travelling expenses and hospitality (when necessary) to be financed by such means as the General Council thinks fit."

The President said that there was already a Resolution of the Executive Committee of the Society which permits the President's Travelling Fund to be used for a Secretary to travel with him, and that on his last tour he had been accompanied by Señor Alfredo Puig, since a translator was needed. Normally Miss Elithe Nisewanger, who is the President's Secretary, travels with him as required except in India.

The President asked that Mrs. A. L. Berry and the members of her Executive Committee be thanked.

(e) *Proposal from Dr. Hugh Shearman, Organizing Secretary of the Northern Ireland Federation.*

Dr. Hugh Shearman proposed that Rule 35(b) be amended so as to make it unnecessary that when forming a Federation all Lodges should be in the same country.

The Council decided that the proposal would require careful consideration and that it should be held over until the next meeting of the General Council.

EMMA HUNT,
Recording Secretary.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS, 1956

			No. of Lodges	No. of Members
National Sections (Active)	..	40		
Presidential Agencies (Active)	..	2		
Federations formed under Rule 35(b)	..	3		
Total Lodges (1956)	..	1,366		
Total Membership:				
1955	..	32,902		
1956	..	33,904		
		<hr/>		
Increase	..	1,002		
		<hr/>		
	No. of Lodges	No. of Members		
1. United States of America	.. 145	4,194		
2. England	.. 111	3,069		
3. India	.. 417	6,802		
4. Australia	.. 16	1,225		
5. Sweden	.. 21	393		
6. New Zealand	.. 19	1,063		
7. Netherlands	.. 37	1,641		
8. France	.. 47	1,429		
9. Italy	.. 29	1,080		
10. Germany	.. 20	492		
11. Cuba	.. 23	552		
12. Hungary	.. —	—		
13. Finland	.. 22	538		
14. Russia	.. —	—		
15. Czechoslovakia	.. —	—		
16. Southern Africa	.. 13	665		
17. Scotland	.. 19	238		
18. Switzerland	.. 12	225		
19. Belgium	.. 12	359		
20. Indonesia	.. 22	850		
21. Burma	.. 7	77		
22. Austria	.. 13	310		
23. Norway	.. 9	168		
24. Egypt (Lodge only)	.. 1	21		
25. Denmark	.. 13	343		
26. Ireland	.. 4	48		
27. Mexico	.. 26	537		
28. Canada	.. 13	394		
29. Argentina	.. 57	1,397		
30. Chile	.. 9	150		
31. Brazil	.. 35	976		
32. Bulgaria	.. —	—		
33. Iceland	.. 11	367		
34. Spain	.. —	—		
35. Portugal	.. 13	252		
36. Wales	.. 6	186		
37. Poland	.. —	—		
38. Uruguay	.. 7	90		
39. Puerto Rico	.. 7	90		
40. Rumania	.. —	—		
41. Yugoslavia	.. —	—		
42. Ceylon	.. 11	147		
43. Greece	.. 8	223		
44. Central America	.. 9	149		
45. Paraguay	.. —	—		
46. Peru (Lodges attached to Adyar)	3	53		
47. Philippines	.. 14	204 (1955)		
48. Colombia	.. 13	140		
49. East Africa	.. 20	714		
50. Pakistan*	.. 7	270 (1955)		
51. Malaya & Singapore†	4	107 (1952)		
52. N. Ireland†	.. 3	69		
53. Viet-Nam	.. 11	393		
54. State of Israel*	.. 3	33		
55. Venezuela	.. 9	118		
56. Japan	.. —	—		
57. West Africa†	.. 4	129		
58. Canadian Federation	8	230		
59. Fellows-at-large	—	12		
60. Lodges and members attached to Adyar:				
Libertad (Argentina)	.. 1	20		
Bolivia	.. 4	50		
Others	.. 15	340		
"	.. 3	282		
	<hr/>	<hr/>		
Total	1,366	33,904		
	<hr/>	<hr/>		

* Presidential Agency.

† Federation.

EMMA HUNT,
Recording Secretary.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS, 1950

Country	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	2050	2051	2052	2053	2054	2055	2056	2057	2058	2059	2060	2061	2062	2063	2064	2065	2066	2067	2068	2069	2070	2071	2072	2073	2074	2075	2076	2077	2078	2079	2080	2081	2082	2083	2084	2085	2086	2087	2088	2089	2090	2091	2092	2093	2094	2095	2096	2097	2098	2099	2100	2101	2102	2103	2104	2105	2106	2107	2108	2109	2110	2111	2112	2113	2114	2115	2116	2117	2118	2119	2120	2121	2122	2123	2124	2125	2126	2127	2128	2129	2130	2131	2132	2133	2134	2135	2136	2137	2138	2139	2140	2141	2142	2143	2144	2145	2146	2147	2148	2149	2150	2151	2152	2153	2154	2155	2156	2157	2158	2159	2160	2161	2162	2163	2164	2165	2166	2167	2168	2169	2170	2171	2172	2173	2174	2175	2176	2177	2178	2179	2180	2181	2182	2183	2184	2185	2186	2187	2188	2189	2190	2191	2192	2193	2194	2195	2196	2197	2198	2199	2200	2201	2202	2203	2204	2205	2206	2207	2208	2209	2210	2211	2212	2213	2214	2215	2216	2217	2218	2219	2220	2221	2222	2223	2224	2225	2226	2227	2228	2229	2230	2231	2232	2233	2234	2235	2236	2237	2238	2239	2240	2241	2242	2243	2244	2245	2246	2247	2248	2249	2250	2251	2252	2253	2254	2255	2256	2257	2258	2259	2260	2261	2262	2263	2264	2265	2266	2267	2268	2269	2270	2271	2272	2273	2274	2275	2276	2277	2278	2279	2280	2281	2282	2283	2284	2285	2286	2287	2288	2289	2290	2291	2292	2293	2294	2295	2296	2297	2298	2299	2300	2301	2302	2303	2304	2305	2306	2307	2308	2309	2310	2311	2312	2313	2314	2315	2316	2317	2318	2319	2320	2321	2322	2323	2324	2325	2326	2327	2328	2329	2330	2331	2332	2333	2334	2335	2336	2337	2338	2339	2340	2341	2342	2343	2344	2345	2346	2347	2348	2349	2350	2351	2352	2353	2354	2355	2356	2357	2358	2359	2360	2361	2362	2363	2364	2365	2366	2367	2368	2369	2370	2371	2372	2373	2374	2375	2376	2377	2378	2379	2380	2381	2382	2383	2384	2385	2386	2387	2388	2389	2390	2391	2392	2393	2394	2395	2396	2397	2398	2399	2400	2401	2402	2403	2404	2405	2406	2407	2408	2409	2410	2411	2412	2413	2414	2415	2416	2417	2418	2419	2420	2421	2422	2423	2424	2425	2426	2427	2428	2429	2430	2431	2432	2433	2434	2435	2436	2437	2438	2439	2440	2441	2442	2443	2444	2445	2446	2447	2448	2449	2450	2451	2452	2453	2454	2455	2456	2457	2458	2459	2460	2461	2462	2463	2464	2465	2466	2467	2468	2469	2470	2471	2472	2473	2474	2475	2476	2477	2478	2479	2480	2481	2482	2483	2484	2485	2486	2487	2488	2489	2490	2491	2492	2493	2494	2495	2496	2497	2498	2499	2500	2501	2502	2503	2504	2505	2506	2507	2508	2509	2510	2511	2512	2513	2514	2515	2516	2517	2518	2519	2520	2521	2522	2523	2524	2525	2526	2527	2528	2529	2530	2531	2532	2533	2534	2535	2536	2537	2538	2539	2540	2541	2542	2543	2544	2545	2546	2547	2548	2549	2550	2551	2552	2553	2554	2555	2556	2557	2558	2559	2560	2561	2562	2563	2564	2565	2566	2567	2568	2569	2570	2571	2572	2573	2574	2575	2576	2577	2578	2579	2580	2581	2582	2583	2584	2585	2586	2587	2588	2589	2590	2591	2592	2593	2594	2595	2596	2597	2598	2599	2600	2601	2602	2603	2604	2605	2606	2607	2608	2609	2610	2611	2612	2613	2614	2615	2616	2617	2618	2619	2620	2621	2622	2623	2624	2625	2626	2627	2628	2629	2630	2631	2632	2633	2634	2635	2636	2637	2638	2639	2640	2641	2642	2643	2644	2645	2646	2647	2648	2649	2650	2651	2652	2653	2654	2655	2656	2657	2658	2659	2660	2661	2662	2663	2664	2665	2666	2667	2668	2669	2670	2671	2672	2673	2674	2675	2676	2677	2678	2679	2680	2681	2682	2683	2684	2685	2686	2687	2688	2689	2690	2691	2692	2693	2694	2695	2696	2697	2698	2699	2700	2701	2702	2703	2704	2705	2706	2707	2708	2709	2710	2711	2712	2713	2714	2715	2716	2717	2718	2719	2720	2721	2722	2723	2724	2725	2726	2727	2728	2729	2730	2731	2732	2733	2734	2735	2736	2737	2738	2739	2740	2741	2742	2743	2744	2745	2746	2747	2748	2749	2750	2751	2752	2753	2754	2755	2756	2757	2758	2759	2760	2761	2762	2763	2764	2765	2766	2767	2768	2769	2770	2771	2772	2773	2774	2775	2776	2777	2778	2779	2780	2781	2782	2783	2784	2785	2786	2787	2788	2789	2790	2791	2792	2793	2794	2795	2796	2797	2798	2799	2800	2801	2802	2803	2804	2805	2806	2807	2808	2809	2810	2811	2812	2813	2814	2815	2816	2817	2818	2819	2820	2821	2822	2823	2824	2825	2826	2827	2828	2829	2830	2831	2832	2833	2834	2835	2836	2837	2838	2839	2840	2841	2842	2843	2844	2845	2846	2847	2848	2849	2850	2851	2852	2853	2854	2855	2856	2857	2858	2859	2860	2861	2862	2863	2864	2865	2866	2867	2868	2869	2870	2871	2872	2873	2874	2875	2876	2877	2878	2879	2880	2881	2882	2883	2884	2885	2886	2887	2888	2889	2890	2891	2892	2893	2894	2895	2896	2897	2898	2899	2900	2901	2902	2903	2904	2905	2906	2907	2908	2909	2910	2911	2912	2913	2914	2915	2916	2917	2918	2919	2920	2921	2922	2923	2924	2925	2926	2927	2928	2929	2930	2931	2932	2933	2934	2935	2936	2937	2938	2939	2940	2941	2942	2943	2944	2945	2946	29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